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HUMBER ET CETERA

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-- Humber College's Newspaper --

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HSF election fiasco

By MELANIE BECHARD

One week after the 2002 HSF election, Humber students still don't know the outcome for President and North's Vice-President of Campus Life because controversy surrounding two candidates has stalled the counting of these ballots.

After nearly 900 students cast their ballots, Craig Wilson, presidential candidate and Jain Thevaril, candidate for VP Campus Life, were disqualified for using an administrative office to campaign through email.

Wilson and Thevaril used the office of

Michael Kopinak, manager of International Student Services, to email other international students asking for support on the last day of campaigning.

Chief Returning Officer, Ben Zettel, had disqualified the candidates, but then re-instated them yesterday morning following an appeal from Wilson and Thevaril. Zettel was unavailable to comment on why the decision was reversed and under what circumstances.

Several other candidates were upset with this re-instatement and immediately decided to appeal the entire election.

"Steve Anastasi, Paul Simpson, Usman

Ghani, Rishi Gupta and myself decided to appeal the election," said presidential candidate Adam Hackett. "We didn't feel it was handled fairly and with the professional integrity that it should have been dealt with."

All of the men appealing are candidates for the two positions in question.

Their next step is to submit an appeal notice to HSF Business Manager Michael Parent, who will decide if the appeal has any merit.

If the appeal is accepted, they must then submit a petition with signatures from at least 51 per cent of the original voter-turnout, about 480 signatures. The petition is then submitted to the appeal committee.

"They conduct a final investigation and their decision is binding," Hackett said.

April 3 is the earliest date for the appeal committee to decide and an HSF press release said results will be available as soon as possible.

Dean of Student Services Judy Harvey said there's no reason for Humber students to be concerned.

"I don't think there's a serious problem," she said. "The transition period won't be complete until the end of the semester and I think the leadership is still there for the students."

With files from PETER A. CRISCIONE

HSF Election results to the best of our knowledge

President	undetermined
Vice President of Administration (North)	Annabella Lopes
Vice President of Administration (Lakeshore)	Valerie Rothlin
Vice President of Campus Life (North)	undetermined
Vice President of Campus Life (Lakeshore)	Stephanie Boreland
Director for School of Info/Tech & Acct. (North)	Jaspal Singh
Director for School of Performing Arts (Lakeshore)	Michael Ferfolia
Directors of School of Business (Lakeshore)	Cesar Esquerra Leah Shore



ANITA VERMA

Neelam Verma will represent Canada at the next Miss Universe pageant.

South Asians acknowledged

By ANITA VERMA

The 700,000 South Asians across Canada are no strangers to the sting of being called "paki" at some point in their lives.

Recognizing the need to ease racial tensions, the Ontario government has passed Bill 98, the South Asian Heritage Act.

The act designates May as South Asian Heritage Month, and May 5 as South Asian Arrival Day. The tribute is long overdue, said MPP Raminder Gill, who brought the private member's bill to Parliament.

"The act officially recognizes South Asians and lays the foundation upon which they, and their children, can see themselves

reflected in the fabric of Ontario," he said.

The act commemorates the arrival of South Asians and their descendants from the Indian subcontinent to the Americas.

"I think it's about time that something like this was introduced," said Noreen Kassam, a second-year Computer Science student at York University. "Because no matter how multicultural Canada seems to be, there is still a strong element of racism. People like myself are still referred to as 'pakis'."

MPP Gill said the bill was inspired by Black History Month, and is an effort to abolish rumours, myths, and stereotypes associated with South Asians.

See May 3 on page 3

My name is Ernie

Our new leader will soon be a household name, the context is up to you



MELANIE BECHARD

Ernie Eves' rise to power and full election coverage - see Harris steps down, page 3

News etc.

Harris steps down, Eves takes control

By MELANIE BECHARD

Ernie Eves was elected leader of Ontario's Progressive Conservative party on Saturday and although he doesn't have a mandate from Ontario citizens, the new premier is not expected to call an election for another year.

Eves had left politics in 2001 after six years as finance minister, and became vice-chairman of Credit Suisse First Boston investment bank and a senior partner in a Bay Street law firm. He was asked to return to public life and run for office when Mike Harris announced he was stepping down.

Now that he's won, Eves will officially take the reins in mid-April.

This gives the incoming premier three weeks to choose a cabinet.

Leading up to Saturday's election, Eves promised that should he win, he'd give cabinet positions to all four of his fellow leadership candidates.

Eves won on the second ballot with about 54 per cent of the votes.

On the first ballot, Eves led Flaherty with 41 per cent of the votes to the current finance minister's 29 per cent.

Tony Clement and Elizabeth Witmer, who came in third and fourth respectively, withdrew from the race and threw their support behind Eves on the second ballot.

Chris Stockwell was dropped from the second ballot, having garnered less than 10 per cent of the votes.

Eves' supporters praised their candidate's leadership qualities.

"He has experience," said sup-



Outgoing Premier Mike Harris consoles unsuccessful PC candidates Witmer, Clement and Stockwell.

porter Sarah Newell. "He's the person most likely to win the next provincial election."

Also present at the convention were the Green Tories, a group dedicated to increasing awareness of environmental issues in the Conservative Party. Water quality, pollution and the spring bear hunt are their top priorities.

"We can't have any more Walkertons," said volunteer Andrea

Villiers. "We can't sell off our water."

Villiers added that the group is not supporting any of the candidates - rather, their aim is to make environmental issues a higher priority in PC policy.

In his victory speech at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Eves said he was "humbled" and "grateful" for the opportunity to lead the party.

He also paid tribute to long-time friend Mike Harris.

"We begin with a strong foundation, and for that, Mike, we will never be able to express our gratitude," Eves said.

The incoming premier also had a warning for the Ontario Liberals.

"Dalton McGuinty and his band of tax-and-spenders had better watch out in the next provincial election," Eves said.

Tech fees to rise

Students must pay an extra \$6 annually for labs and printing

By MIKE McQUEEN

Next fall parking fees will be six per cent higher, tuition is increasing, and residence fees are going up by more than \$200.

Anything else?

You bet.

Tech fees will also rise next year by \$6 to \$56 annually.

The fees help operate computer labs like SAACnet, library databases such as Lexis/Nexis and lab printing, that account for nearly \$150,000.

The increase will mean that Humber will raise almost \$800,000 in technology fees from next year's projected 13,500 full-time students alone.

Unlike tuition, which varies by program, all full-time students must pay the same amount for technology fees.

Because any increase must be negotiated with students, Rick Embree, dean of planning and development, sat down with the



Humber's ever-crowded computer labs will receive more funding next year.

HSF to negotiate the amount.

Mark Naylor, chief information officer of Information and Technology services, said the college asked for a \$25 per semester hike to bring Humber in line with technology fees of other Ontario colleges.

"The average for the 22 colleges is \$100 per year," he said. "Durham, for example, charges \$150 while Humber, is the second lowest."

Naylor stressed that the college more than matches the students' contribution, having budgeted \$800,000 for new computers and paying the full cost for Internet access. Naylor hopes to increase Internet bandwidth next year to 20 megabytes per second from the current 10.

Outgoing HSF president John Pulla said that he is never happy with increases, but that if you don't increase the technology fee, students will pay in other ways because the hardware and resources they need won't be available.

The \$6 increase over two semesters may not appear significant, but Pulla said that when all of next year's hikes are combined, they add up to a "significant amount."

Naylor assured that the choice to raise the fee by only \$6 won't affect the level of service provided.

Naylor had hoped to have more funds to replace the college's aging network infrastructure of wiring, switches and routers, but will still go ahead with some of that work.

Liberal president wants student vote

By CELESTE BOTTERO

Low voter turnout among young adults is a major concern for the president of the Ontario Liberal party, who visited Humber College last week.

In his first speaking engagement at a college since being elected to the Ontario legislature last year, Greg Sorbara, the MPP for Vaughan-King-Aurora, urged students to become involved in politics and stressed the importance of voting.

"If you don't try to put your opinion or your stance on what goes on down at Queen's Park, you're missing the opportunity to shape your world," he said.

Voter turnout among young Canadian adults over the last 10 years has dropped significantly, signaling a rise in political cynicism in young voters.

With a provincial election scheduled within the next two years, Sorbara is responsible for strengthening party finances, as well as luring potential voters to

the party. He's also trying to gain Liberal support from young adults.

"I want to do everything in my power to throw the Tories out and get a Liberal government in Ontario . . . we are now starting to prepare for the next general election," he said.

Recent polls suggest the Conservatives are unlikely to call an election for at least another year as they sit 15 percentage points behind the Liberals.

A key area of the Liberal party platform is Ontario's post-secondary education policy, Sorbara said.

He argued that the Conservative government is putting Ontario's economic future at risk by not investing enough money into post-secondary education.

"Compared to when I was minister, they are providing about one-half the money per student to deliver your education . . . that's nuts, that's bad public policy," he said.

HSF hires new biz manager

By PAUL MARKOWSKI

At a cost of \$11,700 in consulting fees to find the right candidate, the Humber Students' Federation has hired a new business manager – a key position that has been vacant since mid-December.

After a three-month process that involved selecting a consulting firm, research by the consultant for suitable candidates and an extensive interview process, the HSF hired Michael Parent for the position.

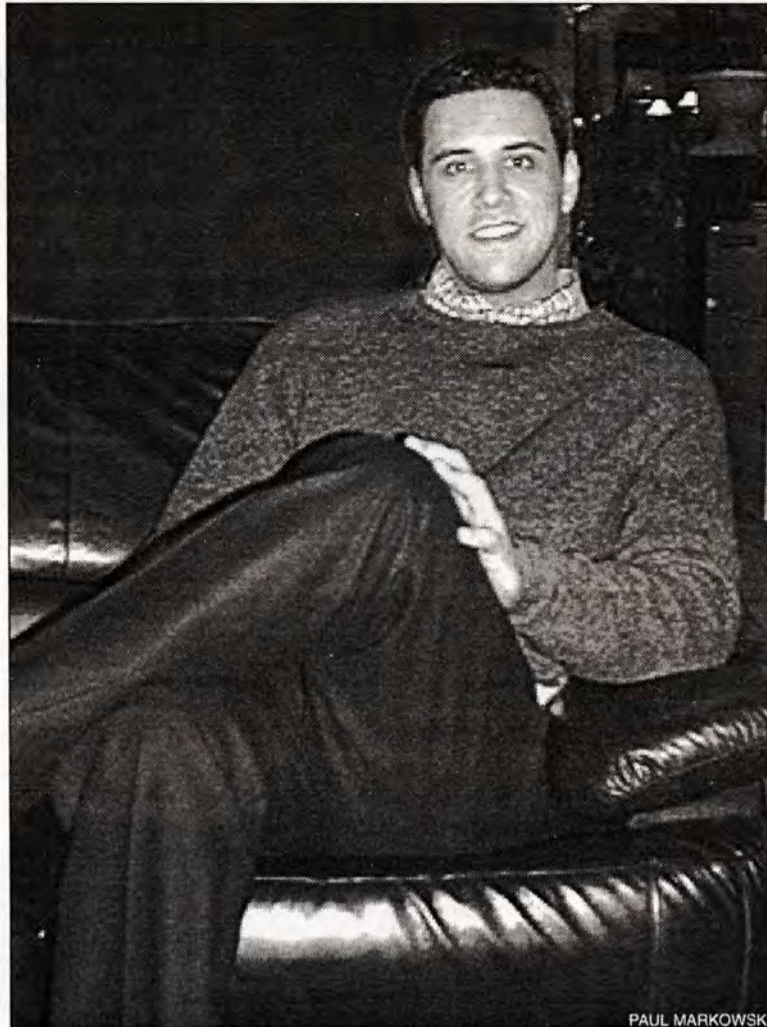
Parent graduated from McMaster University in 1998 with honours in Economics. While attending university, he worked at The Downstairs John bar in McMaster as the assistant manager and upon graduation, took on a position with McMaster Student Union (MSU) as the operations manager.

In 1999, Parent launched his own consulting firm that focuses on small-business management, which will be useful in his new job.

"I rely on my small business consulting experience to get a holistic impression on how the organization runs," Parent said. "Then I apply business development skills to improve efficiency."

Parent's achievements include working with the MSU to develop a \$5-million student centre at McMaster by negotiating contracts and developing business plans for the new facilities.

Since starting on March 13, Parent has been busy becoming familiar with HSF policies and procedures, the constitution and the transition between outgoing and newly elected members of the HSF.



Michael Parent will make student HSF awareness a priority.

The more things HSF can give back to students that they don't have to pay for the better, he said.

"I'm a big believer in having a value-added experience for students."

As business manager, it's important to balance the objectives and viability of the organization in the long term with the aspirations of the executive committee in the short term, Parent said.

Expect to see more of the HSF in the near future, as one of Parent's priorities will be to increase the prominence and importance of the HSF.

Barely two weeks into the job, Parent is already facing his first test. Over the next few days, he will have to determine whether a decision to reinstate two candidates who were disqualified from last week's election should stand.

Proposed anti-poster bylaw angers citizens

By JAMES ROSE and MIKE ZETTEL

Wallpapering buildings and lamp-posts with posters is a common practice in many cities, but may soon be illegal in Toronto if a new bylaw is passed in April.

The Planning and Transport Committee passed a motion in City Hall on Tuesday to recommend a bylaw limiting posters to designated areas. Only 4,000 collared utility poles will be available in the GTA for page-sized posters, with no repetition for 100 metres. The proposed fine for an infraction would be \$60.

If passed, "(the bylaw) would make it impossible for individuals and organizations lacking mega funds to get their message across," said Grant Orchard, Toronto coordinator of Citizens Concerned About Free Trade (CCAFT).

Orchard, along with other concerned citizens, addressed council at the meeting.

"Quietly and without open public discussion, the City of Toronto, as part of its amalgamation plans, is now turning against its citizens' democratic rights," Orchard said. He also cited a Supreme Court ruling that called poster- ing a legitimate form of expression.

Tara Milbrandt, a sociology student at York University, said that posters are an important way for citizens downtown to communicate with each other.

"Things that reduce the sort of visibility or diversity of the city are dangerous," Milbrandt said after the meeting. "It angers me as a citizen."

Briar de Lange, representing the Bloor-Yorkville Business Improvement Area, spoke to council in favour of the proposal.

"We need to put some limitation on where posters can be placed," she said. "The current bylaw is far too lenient, making our city look deplorable. If Toronto wants to sell itself as a 'World Class City', then it has to look like one."

"It's an atrocity," said Christine Majta, a downtown resident who favours the bylaw. As an example, she displayed a poster of a naked man with his hand covering his genital area.

"This is offensive to some," she warned the council. "It is to me."

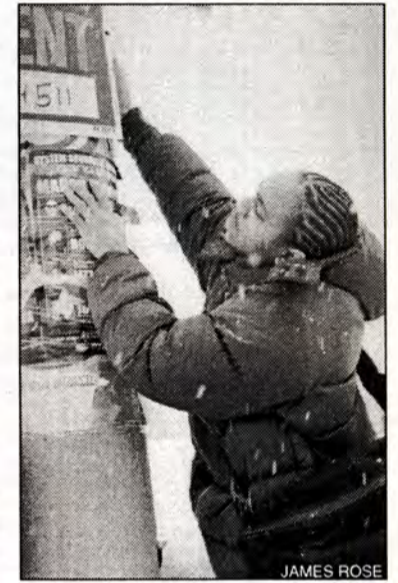
Joanne Flint, councillor for Don Valley West, voted in favour of the proposal, and illustrated her position by comparing poster- ing to offensive radio programming, which she added, could be tuned out.

"But if there are posters sitting there all over the place, you have no ability to tune it out," she said.

Peter Milczyn, councillor for

Etobicoke-Lakeshore, who also voted in favour of the proposal, called the problem "disgusting." He said it was the volume of posters, not their content, that was the problem.

"I can say with authority poster- ing is about freedom of speech, and freedom of speech is about being messy," said Reg Hartt, who relies on poster- ing to advertise his downtown film screenings. He said the problem lies with poster- ing companies who pay



Posting: soon to be restricted?

people to go out at night and put up posters by the thousands.

Howard Moscoe, councillor for Eglinton-Lawrence, said the city would have difficulty enforcing a poster ban. He added the cost of the proposed collars, which would top \$100,000, was not allocated in the final budget, approved earlier this month.

He said the proposal, which he later voted in favour of, is an attempt "to fix up a court decision without fixing the problem."

The motion was passed with all councillors but one voting in favour.

Dave Meslin from the Toronto Public Space Committee said after the meeting that he wasn't worried about the bylaw.

"As soon as someone is charged with it, we're going to court."

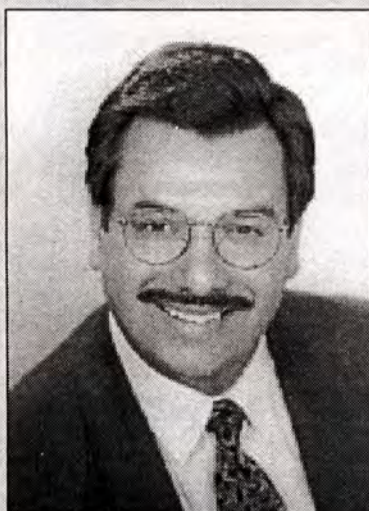
May 5 now 'South Asian Arrival Day'

continued from front page

The bill received unanimous support from Parliament last December. A committee will be created to promote the act around Ontario and plan the big launch scheduled for early this May.

Elementary school curriculum will also incorporate the act next September. Every May, students will learn about South Asian culture, history and contributions.

"I think it's great, it raises awareness," said Sandy Saberwal, a sixth grade teacher at Cherokee Public School in Toronto. "Every [ethnic] group should have this because it gives knowledge we don't always have the opportunity to give students."



COURTESY MPP Raminder Gill initiated act.

Neelam Verma, the current Miss Canadian Universe, is the first South Asian woman to have

won this honour.

She will represent Canada at the upcoming Miss Universe pageant on May 29 in Puerto Rico.

"The United Nations noted Canada as the most multicultural country in the world," she said. "I think efforts such as the recent South Asian Heritage Act will contribute to this and prove Canada's commitment to preserving the culture of its people."

Gill said he hoped that launching the South Asian Heritage Act may motivate other ethnic leaders to further promote their heritage.

Additional information on The South Asian Heritage Act can be located at www.ontla.on.ca, or on MPP Raminder Gill's personal Web site www.ramindergill.com.

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On Campus etc.

New adventure class to keep students up with travel trends

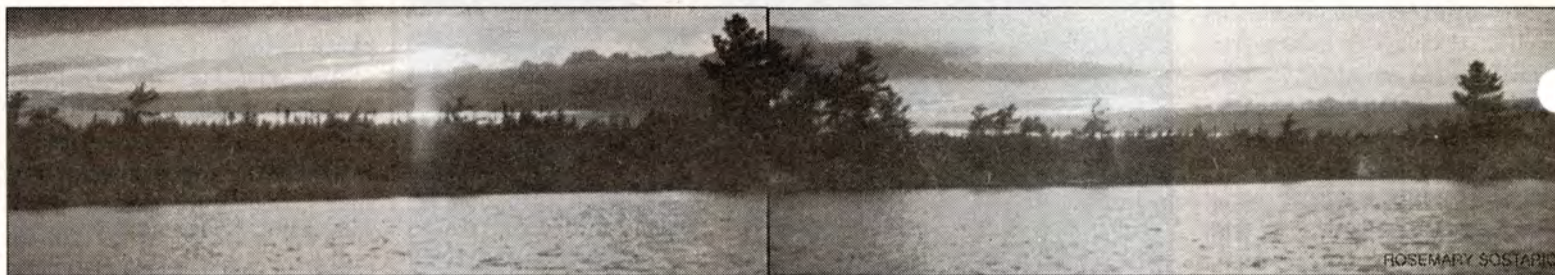
By ROSEMARY SOSTARIC

Ecotourism is emerging as one of the fastest growing segments of the tourism industry and Humber College is travelling right along with it.

Although there are varying definitions, ecotourism is basically "responsible travel to natural areas that conserve the environment and sustain the well-being of the local people," according to the International Society of Ecotourism.

Beginning in September, Humber's Continuing Education department, in conjunction with the school of Hospitality, Recreation and Tourism, will be offering an Adventure Recreation certificate.

The new two-semester environmentally-conscious program will cover a broad range of topics, com-



bining theory and practical instruction, said Dan Reeves, coordinator of the Life Long Learning Centre.

"In the theory end of it, students will begin with lessons concerning the unique characteristics that make-up ecotourism as opposed to general tourism," Reeves said.

Although a similar program was, at one time, part of Humber's curriculum, it was cancelled due to low enrolment, according to Reeves.

The area of study has been referred to in some tourism-related classes at Humber, but now that the area is all but exploding, ecotourism

will once again be a fixture in Humber's enrolment calendar.

On the practical side, students will be required to take any two of 15 outdoor activity courses that are administered by the athletics department.

"We've made an agreement with athletics, mainly because they run a number of outdoor educational programs, such as backpacking, canoe tripping and winter hiking," Reeves added.

Those wishing to pursue such studies will be introduced to the principle of responsible and sus-

tainable nature travel that is key to earth friendly explorations.

Since travellers are, more than ever, in search of the ultimate experience and long to get back to nature, ecotourism will continue to be in high demand.

"And for that reason the need for qualified individuals to sustain and promote these areas is on the rise," Reeves said.

Patricia Carrington, media relations manager for the International Society of Ecotourism, said ecotourism's heightened popularity follows "a movement to more sustain-

able products in the marketplace."

"The biggest consumers, the biggest travellers are from North America and Europe and they are looking for more green and sustainable products," Carrington said. "Ecotourism is the travel equivalent of responsible investing."

"Ecotourism is a win-win situation," Carrington added. "It provides a unique experience for the travellers, but it also gives back to the local community."

And like Reeves, Carrington believes qualified individuals should be responsible for supporting and maintaining the principles associated with environmentally-friendly travels.

"The key directive of ecotourism is that it must not impact the environment and the culture," said Carrington.

"It is culturally sensitive, and it can give back economically because it should always employ and involve local people in the process. So it can benefit with jobs and improved services, through investments in hospitals, schools and libraries."

To accomplish this, several boundaries must be put in place, said Matt Robinson, executive publisher of *Outpost Magazine*, Canada's only adventure travel publication.

"Such travels need to be regulated on various degrees, particularly the number of people involved," Robinson said.

"It's not a Disney World environment. If it was, it's no longer ecologically sound because people are encroaching upon it."

College club lends a hand to those in need

By KELLY LABINE

Humber student Amanda Claassen is doing something that more students should.

This 22-year-old post-grad Graphic Design student started Humber Helping Hands, a club responsible for various outreach efforts that have taken place at Humber in the past year.

The group is hosting a food drive at Caps tonight.

"Instead of paying cover, you can bring a non-perishable food item," Claassen said. "We are a volunteer outreach group, so we just do things that help the community and the greater community of Toronto."

The club was sanctioned as an HSF club in September.

"Coming from a small town and being in Toronto and having more exposure to the homeless, you want to help out, but you just don't know where to start," Claassen said.

"So I wanted to start a club so that people who did want to help make a difference had the opportunity to do so."

Humber Helping Hands has organized other food drives and visited the Daily Bread Food Bank to help sort food.

Most recently, they put on a clothing drive at the Humber Residences, where they collected six garbage bags full of clothes for "Out of the Cold", a Toronto group that provides materials to help the homeless stay warm.

Following Sept. 11, the club ran a program called "On the Wings of the Dove," which raised \$540 for the Red Cross to help support victims of the WTC attacks.

"As a student, I don't have money to contribute, so I give my time instead," said Maeve McCambridge, 19, an Industrial Design student from Leith.

"It's a good way to get a glimpse into other people's lives," he added. "It's an eye opener and it makes me see how fortunate I am."

The group is also helping out with the 30-Hour Famine and in April they will volunteer for the Multiple Sclerosis walk.

"If anybody is interested in joining, because it is a campus wide club, they can email humber_hands@hotmail.com," said Claassen.



Humber's helping hand Rosalia Oliveira helps sort food at the Daily Bread Food Bank.

CORRECTION

Last week, a picture on page 10 (On Campus) of the *Humber Et Cetera* was described: "HSF Pulla honours Joanna Cwik for Digital artwork." The young woman in the picture was not Joanna Cwik. *Et Cetera* regrets the error.

Class cancellations waste time

By PAUL PAPA KOSTOPOULOS

Jacqueline Boulet, a first year Journalism student, wakes up every weekday morning at 6 a.m., gets ready, warms her car and settles down in her seat to begin the 80 km drive from her Hamilton home to Humber College.

It takes Boulet, 23, an hour-and-a-half to make the trip to Humber's North Campus, where she attends classes. So it's understandable that when she arrives to find her classes cancelled, she gets a little ticked off.

"If they were only kind enough to let me know beforehand, so I don't have to drive all this way. I have a cell phone they can reach me at," she said.

"When two of my classes were cancelled with prior notice this year,

that was a sweet deal because of the course load. It's nice to have a break sometimes. But when it's a last minute thing, something has to give."

But school policy only requires that faculty who can't make it to class call their department heads. Then a cancellation notice is posted outside the door of the classroom, said Maureen Wall, a representative for the teachers faculty union. There is no formal policy on notifying students on cancellations.

"Ideally, the class will be covered by another teacher, but practically that's difficult to arrange," Wall said.

Sheron Bailey, a front desk clerk at the college, said one alternative for students is to contact the call centre on snow days to hear announcements posted about school

closings. But since the call centre doesn't handle individual class cancellations, students must rely on teachers to contact them by phone or email.

So far this year, an average of seven classes have been cancelled for every student, according to a recent *Et Cetera* survey of 50 students conducted at the North Campus. (Generally, in two of seven classes, several days of advanced notice was given to students.)

But some students are angry that there is no better system of dealing with class cancellations, particularly same-day cancellations. It often means long bus rides or highway driving for nothing.

"When I hear my class is cancelled, I get upset," said Elysiah Persad, a first-year Hospitality, Recreation and Tourism student. "They need to tell us in advance."

However, not all reaction to cancelled classes is negative. Darlene Clark, a second year Law Clerk student, celebrated when a three hour class was cancelled.

Half the students surveyed believe they should be notified when a class is cancelled, and others said they are relieved and look forward to the free time.

The survey also showed the majority of students who didn't mind cancelled classes either lived in residence or near to the Humber campus.



PAUL PAPA KOSTOPOULOS

Jacqueline Boulet is tired of driving an hour-and-a-half for nothing

According to the survey, there is often no explanation given for a same day cancellation. Also, the survey shows one of five classes were made up.

"If I miss a class I try to make up the work the following class," Wall said.

Richard Hook, vice-president of academics at the college, said the college has no school policy governing the make-up of classes teachers have missed.

"Class make-ups are encouraged," he said. "But they recognize this is not always possible."

Outgoing HSF President John Pulla admitted students have complained to him about the cancellations and has asked that advance notice be given for a cancellation.

"It's hard to do anything about it," Pulla said. "We work hand-in-hand with the faculty, but we can't control what teachers do."

The HSF, he said, is working with the school to come up with a solution for next year.

Pulla has proposed posting cancellations on the new Hybertrons (a closed-circuit television), several of which will be installed around the school.

However, one Hybertron may cost between \$1,000 and \$8,000, depending on the quality, according to Pulla. A phone call only costs a quarter.

Unless these screens can dial a phone number, Jacqueline Boulet will only be notified about her next cancelled class by a screen inside the college doors.



PAUL PAPA KOSTOPOULOS

Humber Board of Governors needs new members

By MITANJALI SOLOMON

The search is on for three new members for next year's Board of Governors.

One student position and two external positions are open to be filled. The college is required to appoint 17 members to the governing board.

"Each year we look down the list of current members and see who can still stand," said Valerie Hewson, executive assistant to Humber president Robert Gordon and the Board of Governors.

"Members can be on the board for three years and can opt to remain on it for another three years after which they have to step off the board."

Two members are completing their six-year term.

The BOG is comprised of 12 external members, along with the

president of the college and one elected member each from faculty, support staff, students and administration.

The Ontario Council of Regents appoints each of these and the 12 external members. This year there are three external members completing their three-year term who can stand for reappointment.

Hewson said the BOG tries to have a varied representation of minorities, gender and a mixture between public and private sector representatives.

"For example we don't want all 12 members to be from the business community," Hewson said. "Right now we have members from Hospitality, Health Sciences, computing, a retired judge, a lawyer, a journalist and a member of the education board. We don't want clones of each other."

Applications are considered by

the nominations committee, the chair and the president. In some cases, the nominations committee will meet applicants to try to get to know them. The committee then makes recommendations to the full board, and they in turn make recom-

mendations to the Ontario Council of Regents.

"It helps if the applicants are interested in education and are familiar with dealing with financial planning, because the Board is concerned with the fiscal responsibility

and strategic planning for the college," said Hewson.

All terms for the BOG begin Sept. 1, 2002 and end Aug. 31, 2003. Recommendations must be submitted to the President's Office at the North Campus by today.

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Cool chairs

Humber Industrial Design students show off their creative chair designs next month at Indian Motorcycle Club in T.O.

By JOHN PRATT

Second-year Humber Industrial Design students will be showcasing their work next month at the fifth annual In-Sit-U chair competition in Toronto.

"Each year the show gets bigger and bigger," said Alexis Eizinas, a Humber Industrial Design student and press awareness manager for the student-organized show.

"It started off with about 40 people attending, parents and friends. Last year, 700 showed up and this year we're expecting 1,500 plus," Eizinas said.

The night will begin with a cocktail reception followed by the unveiling of each group's prototype. Industry insiders will then judge the competition. The show will play host to a keynote speaker and a live band will provide entertainment for the balance of the evening.

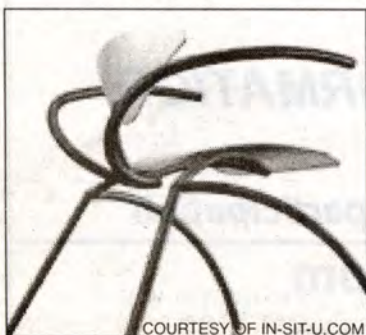
The competition requires students to design a chair, suitable for indoor or outdoor use in a café. It must reflect the character of Toronto and must also be stackable.

"What we're trying to do is create more culture and a look, a signature chair for the city," said Ken Cummings, coordinator of the Industrial Design program.

"The student's challenge is to get a design together, go out to industry, explain what they're doing and have them help make the chair."

Cummings points out that corporate partnership is essential in helping students gain important contacts upon graduation.

Eizinas agrees that the show is essential in helping students make



Spider-like chair design created by industrial design students

contact with possible future employers.

"By inviting designers and manufacturers to the show, students start to develop networks and with these networks people can see your work and start talking about it before you get into the work field."

Renée Wilson, editor of the trade publication *Design Engineering*, is a supporter of the In-Sit-U show. Wilson has donated space on the magazine's Web site to provide a link for the show's Web site, www.in-sit-u.com.

"It's a good way for companies to secure their future. These design students are the future of industrial design in Canada, so if these companies help them out and these up-and-comers become familiar with these companies, the hope is that the companies will hire them later," Wilson said.

So how does one design a chair with a city in mind? Cummings thinks Toronto's openness and widespread multiculturalism will help inspire the students with their concepts.

"The students had to go out and discover the different kinds of icons, the kind of flavour not just taking from visual things but people's lifestyles in Toronto. They had to visit different cafés and find out what people related to."

Eizinas was undeterred by this challenge.

"Toronto has everything so you can read into it whatever you want to . . . that's the kind of artistic license you can take."

Cummings said events like In-Sit-U have helped Humber develop a good reputation within the corporate world.

"When our graduates call on these people for help, with the café chair for example, they get a good reception. Humber students are straight-forward, honest, realistic, and they also have to be very creative. It's an ongoing challenge."

The show is being sponsored and held at the Indian Motorcycle Club (355 King St. W) on Monday, April 15.



Humber student Alexis Eizinas is busy designing her industrial future in a world made for men.

Today's industrial woman

By JOHN PRATT

Alexis Eizinas is about to launch into a career where she will be a visible minority. Not because of race, but because of her gender.

Eizinas is one of only two females in her class of 25 and has a theory why more women are not becoming involved in the Industrial Design program at Humber.

"I don't think enough women know about it. It's industrial design so maybe the first thought that comes to women's minds is designing the interiors of factories. No, that's not what it is. It's not a common career choice, like a doctor or a lawyer," she said.

Despite a lack of female colleagues, Eizinas prefers to think of herself as just another student in the class. Industrial design's diversity has been the big draw for her.

"You can use the left side and the right side of your brain - it's wonderful and so fulfilling," she said. "The feeling of having something in your head and then making it, knowing that other people are going to want it, that's pretty rewarding."

Renée Wilson, editor of *Design*

Engineering magazine, has experienced first-hand the lack of females in the field. "When I go to any kind of industry event, lots of times I'm only one of maybe five women in a group of two or three hundred. There aren't a lot of women."

Wilson believes the lack of women involved in design can be traced back to grade school.

"Perhaps girls aren't encouraged in their early years to get involved in the maths and sciences, maybe even before Grades 7 and 8. It's hard to say."

However, recent actions undertaken by the Federal Ministry of Industry seem to back up what Wilson is saying. Newly-appointed Industry Minister Allan Rock just announced a large industrial education scholarship program aimed at students in junior high and high school.

The situation in Europe is quite different than here, Eizinas said.

"I know a lot of European firms will specifically hire half men and half women so they have a balanced input. They also hire internationally."

Ken Cummings, program coordinator of Humber's Industrial Design program, said he's finding more females are applying to the program and becoming involved in the industry.

"There's a high demand for women in everything from contract furniture to appliances and everything else, even automotive," Cummings said.

"Once they get their skills up, and Alexis is an example of that, she's done very well in the program, they will be able to write their own ticket."

Recently, the industry has seen many successful women rise to the top of the corporate ranks. Micheline Bouchard is a female engineer who is the chairperson, president and CEO of Motorola Canada while Carly Fiorina is chairperson, president and CEO of Hewlett Packard Canada.

As far as giving advice to females who are considering jumping into the world of industrial design, Wilson said just do it.

"Look for other female mentors in the industry that are doing it now and doing it well, and don't be discouraged by anything."

Looking for alternatives to OSAP

By AKUA HINDS

Finance experts say that students should plan budgets and shop around for the loan that is tailored for them before leaving home.

Just like you choose your underwear to fit comfortably, your student loan should be the perfect fit for you.

Two back-to-back debt management seminars were held at Humber College's North Campus on March 20. Students were given tips on how to obtain various types of student loans, how to repay them and stay debt-free. Presented by James Walker, a regional representative from EDULINX Canada Corporation, the first hour long presentation attracted nearly 40 students in the President's Boardroom.

With 5,450 Humber students applying for OSAP this school year, it's clear that loans are sometimes the only way students can afford to finance their education. Margaret Antonides, Humber's manager of Financial Aid, said that it's difficult to say how much the average student debt is at the end of a school program.

"If they receive the maximum amount requested, most students would have an estimated \$18,000 debt after a two-year program," Antonides said. Most federal or provincial government-sponsored student loans have a six-month grace period that begins when students have completed their full-time studies. Although the government doesn't require the student to make any payments during these six months,



For more information about student loans and debt management log on to EDULINX Web site at www.edulinx.ca.

once the period has ended, interest begins to accrue on the loan and must be paid in addition to the principal.

"For repayment purposes, when we talk about your debt, it's going to be how much money you borrowed plus any grace period interest that you didn't pay off on that loan," Walker told the audience.

Students who choose to return to school within the timeframe of their six month grace period can have the government pay off the interest. Students who don't return to school during that time frame have a different decision to make because their loans will consolidate on the last day of the grace period.

"The first option is to make a one-time payment and pay that particular interest off and you never have to worry about that interest

ever again," Walker explained. "The other option is to do what's called capitalized interest. If you capitalize the interest, what you do is add interest to the principal of the loan," Walker said.

"The positive aspect is that there's no long-term payment. The negative aspect is now that you're paying that interest out over the lifetime of your loan, you're going to be paying interest on interest. It may cost you a few dollars more. Automatically, the bank will capitalize the interest unless you tell them you're going to be paying that interest off," he added.

If students decide to make payments during the grace period instead of waiting for the scheduled period, the payments can be made to the lender in any amount and will be applied to the loan. If students want

to consolidate early and go into repayment by setting minimum payment amounts, they can do so that as well with a debt management program.

Minimum monthly payments are determined on three basic loan principles: how much money was borrowed, how much interest will be charged, and how long it will take to pay the money back.

"Government sponsored student loans are not mortgages. There's no penalty to pay it off early. It's actually a benefit. The faster you pay it off, the less interest you pay," Walker advised.

The government pre-determines the interest rate on the Canada portion at prime plus two and a half per cent interest, and it is variable.

"Basically what that means is that prime is the best rate we give our customers. As prime rises and falls, so does the interest rate you're charged," Walker added.

"That's because it's variable. There is a one-time option to fix the interest rate at prime plus five per cent but once you fix that interest rate, it remains fixed, you cannot unfix it if interest rates drop," he warned.

Walker suggested only fixing student loan interest rates if they are expected to rise above two and a half per cent over the life time of the loan.

"The first thing you should always note is what are the minimum monthly payments going to be, and can you afford to make those payments," Walker said.

Travel insurance news flash

By M. CHARLES SALEM

A proposal to develop global travel protection for Canadians was voted down by airline representatives at a Canada Joint Council meeting last week.

The council, made up of members of the retail travel sector, Canadian airline operators and those who fly into Canada, turned down a plan proposed by the Alliance of Canadian Travel Agents (ACTC) that would have seen an additional \$1 added to each plane ticket.

"We will now have to ask the federal government to develop a Canadian solution to this problem, which will undoubtedly be more expensive, cumbersome and complicated for both consumers and the airlines," ACTA Chair Ches Chard said.

"It is now time for the federal government to take an interest in consumer protection for Canadian airline passengers."

The plan, which has been already approved in 33 countries, would have provided insurance for Canadian travellers in the event of airline or travel agency bankruptcies.

Many expected the proposal to pass because of its private sector support including the four-million member Canadian Automobile Association (CAA).

Board of Governors of Humber College Election Notice for the Support Staff Representative

The date of **Wednesday, May 15th 2002** (with an Advance Poll on Monday, May 13th) has been set for the election of the Support Staff Representative to the Board of Governors of Humber College. The term of office for this elected Governor is September 1, 2002 through August 31, 2005. Both full and part time support staff are eligible to submit nominations and/or vote in this election. The nominations period closed on **Tuesday April 30th, 2002.**

Full details on the nominations process and time lines can be found in the *College Communique #35 (March 26th, 2002)*, or by calling *Val Hewson in the President's Office, Ext. 4102*, or *Doug Willford, the Chief Returning Officer, Ext. 4262.*

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HSF bungles election

The HSF election results are in...kind of.

Almost 1,000 students voted in last week's election, and we still don't know who our HSF president is, who our vice president of campus life at North is, and why this process, which seemed rushed from the start, is taking so long. The votes haven't even been counted for pity's sake.

Fresh from our March break, we returned to halls papered in posters, urging us to choose a candidate for this pressing election. What an anti-climax.

Over the past week, two candidates have been disqualified for sketchy campaigning practices. After appeal they have been subsequently (and rather questionably) reinstated by the same guy who gave them the boot in the first place, chief returning officer Ben Zettel, who is conveniently unavailable to answer questions. Competing candidates are rallying to appeal the reinstatement, and the entire election for that matter. The appeal will then go to our newly hired business manager, Michael Parent, whose timecard at Humber totals two weeks. If the appeal is accepted, a petition must follow to cull voter signatures and then it's hustled on to an appeal committee and on and on.

Whew.

We shouldn't hassle the newcomer. After all, he has important matters to consider. It might actually be a good thing though, to have someone new to Humber decide the fate of the HSF elections.

Come to think of it, it might actually be good to have anyone decide the fate of this election.

The dawning of Eves

The Progressive Conservative party named a new leader last weekend, with Ernie Eves being elected to follow in the footsteps of the outgoing Mike Harris.

Welcome to the world of protests and picketers, Mr. Eves.

Love or hate their politics, the PC switch should raise eyebrows across the province: an election where only 2,000 people – all party members – could vote has named our new provincial premier.

Eves will take office in early April and could be there for as long as two years. As loathed as Mike the Knife and his cost cutting "common sense" may have been, at least every voter had the chance to vote for or against him.

This isn't the case with Eves. Some have said that Dalton McGuinty's time has come, but we'll have to wait to see if that's true.

Of course, it could be argued that there's nothing to worry about here, unless, of course, you didn't like Harris in the first place. Eves, who served as Harris's finance minister for six years, will most likely follow the Harris mandate closely.

Conservatives, more often than not, are like apples and apples.

The fine art of porn

Bruce Easton Ellis' bloody novel American Psycho did not top the death toll on U.S. streets when it hit the best sellers list. Graphic and gory it was, a call to all would-be murderers, probably not.

On Tuesday, John Robin Sharpe (what's with the three names?) was acquitted by a B.C. judge on two charges related to his collection of child-porn stories. He was, however, convicted on two counts of possession of child pornography – hundreds of photographs, as reported in *The Globe and Mail*.

Child advocates fear that the decision on the literature, which includes scenes with men abusing and seducing young boys, will encourage pedophiles to do the same. But a B.C. judge has ruled these tales have artistic merit, upholding the Supreme Court's decision on such material.

Sharpe may be a perv in his private life, and for that he deserves to be punished. But his "art" must stand apart.



Mike Harris passes the torch to Ernie Eves ... among other things

Smoking out the hypocrites



Laura Kupcis

Sitting in a coffee shop, a man tries to light up a cigarette. The patron sitting next to him starts throwing a fit about the perils of second-hand smoke. The smoker apologizes and butts out his cigarette, realizing that this gentleman has every right to eat in clean air.

The non-smoker finishes eating and gets into his car, which is parked in front of the coffee shop. The man starts his car and proceeds to leave it running for the next 20 minutes.

Hypocrite.

How can this man, in good conscience, scream about a little smoke that filters into the air and evaporates, when he is polluting the

air with harmful pathogens that not only harm humans, but the environment as well?

Chemicals such as benzene, lead and carbon monoxide have harmful effects on the blood, bone marrow, spleen and lymph nodes. Carbon monoxide poisoning is analogous to suffocation.

If you attach a hose to the exhaust pipe of your car and put it in your mouth, it will kill you within 10 minutes; whereas putting a cigarette in your mouth and inhaling can take decades to kill you.

Why is the government wasting its time worrying about smoking bylaws? Are there not more important things in this city that require more immediate attention, like homeless people freezing to death on the streets, or the children who don't have enough to eat because their families live below the poverty line?

People are going to continue to smoke cigarettes despite the flood of mass warnings about the dangers of smoking. We know we are all going to die someday, at

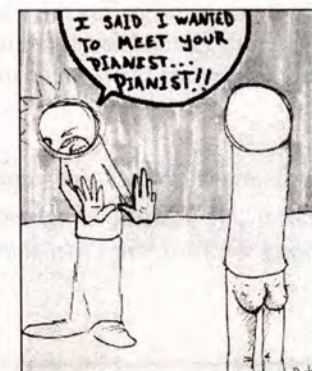
least allow us to be happy in the meantime.

As for smoking in public places: that's what designated smoking and non-smoking sections are for.

Create separate ventilation rooms, build bars for smokers and other ones for non-smokers if that pleases the health critics.

Then watch as the avid non-smokers flood to the smoking areas because that is where more people will be.

Drinking and smoking, coffee and smoking, food followed by a cigarette. Shall I go on? Most things are better when accompanied by a smoke. Please do not take away all of the little pleasures in life.



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Opinion etc.

Amen to that



Brett Clarkson

The 81-year-old wilted hobbit has never addressed the victims, and when he issued a few measly sentences last week in response to the growing plague, his thoughts rested more with the perpetrators than with those whose trust was betrayed by the clergy.

Maybe Sinead was right when she ripped up that picture.

Anyhoo. Providing he doesn't kick off (I have him in my 2002 dead pool), the Pope will be in town this summer. I hear he hangs at System Soundbar when he's in the T-Dot. And don't be surprised if you see him pissing in the alley behind Whiskey Saigon.

What else? Oh yeah. You hear about that fiasco up in Durham Region with the local school board denying that young flamer the chance to bring his poof to the prom? So divine.

Apparently the board – which is Catholic, they have a right to believe this – has denied Marc Hall, 17, the right to escort his boyfriend to the year-end soirée. There's a big kerfuffle and various threats of launching some human rights suit of some sort, and that's all fine and, uh, dandy. But the question is not necessarily the religion's system of beliefs, but rather the question of why we continue to finance the Catholic system with public money. Seems rather outdated in the cosmopolitan, many-cultured GTA, doesn't it? There is uproar, and I wouldn't be surprised if you started hearing that guy with the chin and that other guy with the space in his teeth joking about it on their late-night shows.

Needless to say, it's been a bad couple weeks for the Catholic church.

What these guys need is to throw that celibacy crap out the window and embrace a total reformation of how they govern themselves, from the top down. Address the victims and purge the parishes of the perverts.

They also need to know that one should judge not lest ye be bloody well judged.

Amen.

Do you have something to say? Write to the Et Cetera at: humberetc@hotmail.com For verification purposes, all letters must include full name, phone number and address. We reserve the right to edit for space and clarity.

Oh God. Here we go again with the Catholic church. Jesus Christ, where to begin?

With more pedophiles than a NAMBLA (National Association for Man Boy Love) convention and less tolerance for homos than a military football team, the denomination has become a punching bag of late. And deservedly so. Go ahead, take a shot at it, because the Pope and his robed bagmen are just aching for your fire and brimstone.

Cast it down upon them.

To put it lightly, the church is racked with scandal of Enron-like proportions. With every passing day it seems we hear about another priest and his molesting ways. In Boston right now, there's a guy named Father John Geoghan (he's been defrocked) who's accused of abusing more than 130 kids over 30 years. This ogre was convicted in late January of raping a 10-year-old boy. The worst part of the equation is that the Boston archdiocese – the White House of American Catholicism – long had knowledge about Geoghan's priestly perversity. And what did they do? Nothing. Except transfer him to another parish whenever the allegations surfaced.

And surface they did. The first case bubbled up in 1984. The Boston archbishop, Cardinal Bernard Law, knew about this but never did a damn thing. Didn't tell the other parishioners, didn't tell the police. Didn't tell the Pope either, but could have, being that he and old J.P. II are good buddies.

Just turned a blind bloody eye. After all, it would have been a public relations disaster for the church, and don't kid yourself, these holy men of the cloth aren't stupid. They know the importance of image.

Even the Pope knows, and this is where the story starts to get even uglier. Last week the pontiff weighed in on the Vatican's virus and quite simply, made an ass of himself.

Plight of the jobless



Jesse Kohl

Acheesy no-name version of Kraft Dinner. Some spaghetti noodles – no sauce. Three cans of tuna and nothing to put it on. No bread. No milk. The fridge? A jug of water and a few pickles floating in a murky green brine. I suppose I could've diced the pickles and mixed up a tuna dish laced with tiny green chunks.

"We have to go shopping," I said to my roommate. "We have nothing. Nothing."

He put his book on his lap. "Mr. Noodles?"

"I can't eat those," I said. "They look like dead tapeworms in a dirty toilet bowl."

"It's your turn, then," he said. "Last time we put the shit on my credit card."

My roommate went back to reading. I was on my own. I hated to admit it, but it was time to get a job – any job.

Most of the part-time and summer jobs I've ever worked have been related to the food industry. There was the noisy pressure-cooking back kitchen of KFC, where I once dropped a cage of chicken into the hot grease the wrong way and got my face sprayed with oil at 350 degrees. I've mixed drinks and cleared tables for the moneywads in fine dining. I've torn the skin off my toe running food for a family restaurant. And I've delivered plates upon plates of souvlaki dinners at a place where everyone seemed to speak Greek except me.

It was time for something different, I thought. Maybe I could get something more related to my field. I am, after all, almost finished with college. Screw the discounts on staff meals. A good run for groceries will last longer.

I spent a week handing out resumés, related or not to my chosen field of (hallelujah) journalism. I think I covered everything but women's clothing and, of course, fast food and restaurants.

One week later I was called in for an interview at Indigo Books. Not exactly *The Globe and Mail*, but I went for it.

The manager who interviewed me was a smiley, blond-haired girl who looked the same age as me. The pressure was off. Low stress

interviews are a great way to practise people skills. She asked me all the expected questions, and I answered honestly, occasionally referring back to my experience working for a small book publisher as part of an internship last semester.

Then she got me.

"Tell me how you would approach a customer in your section," she said.

"Well, I mean, as a consumer and frequent buyer of books, I personally find it kind of irritating when I'm browsing and someone approaches me with the standard 'Can I help you?' line."

She kept smiling, waiting, and I gave in to the pressure of silence.

"But," I continued, "I can see the value of suggestive selling."

That was the end of it. I listened to her explain how, as a retail store, the prime concern is selling the product, being there to recommend a fresh title or say things like, "Oh, I've been meaning to read that one."

Two days later, the promised call never came, and soon I received a Dear Applicant letter signed personally by that smiley young manager.

Bile rose in my gut as I realized the truth of it all: I should've spent that subway fare on a loaf of bread.

Joni Mitchell never lies



Melanie Bechard

A surprising number of minorities were present as well, helping to dispel the idea that capital-c Conservatives are always rich, white males.

This convention would decide not just the new leader of Ontario's PC party, but the new premier.

And while only card-carrying members of the PC party could vote, non-members were welcome to attend the convention for a cool \$250.

Part of the entertainment for the day was a live band that played an assortment of songs in the convention hall. In the late afternoon, while waiting for the results of the second ballot, the band played Joni Mitchell's "Big Yellow Taxi."

The irony seemed lost on the conventioners.

"They paved paradise, and put up a parking lot, with a pink hotel, a boutique, and a swinging hot spot," sang the band.

A song mourning the loss of paradise to business development seemed

strangely inappropriate at a gathering of neo-conservatives bent on fostering a "positive investment climate" by slashing corporate taxes, then cutting funding to education and health care to make up for the loss of income.

And while Eves has presented himself as a kinder, gentler Progressive Conservative throughout his campaign, the fact remains that he was Mike Harris' finance minister and deputy premier during the first six years of the Common Sense Revolution.

Eves claims personal responsibility for numerous tax cuts, and for the sale of Highway 407, reportedly at far below its market value.

All this, as we watch the cost of housing skyrocket and the accessibility of post-secondary education plummet.

"Don't it always seem to go that you don't know what you've got till it's gone."

You said it, Joni.

Health etc.

Walk on

By CHRISSIE O'BRIEN

looking junk."
"They're a \$2 piece of product being sold as a running shoe. There is only a small percentage of the population that requires a neutral shoe, and all the new fancy sequined runners that are in style are weak neutral shoes," he said.

Fashion aside, how is one to know what shoe is best? "Look at your footprint barefoot on pavement or dry floor. If there is very little of the mid part of your foot showing, if you only see your heel and toes, then you only need a neutral shoe," Dr. Moore explained. "If your foot is flat like an ape foot than you need a high stability or motion control shoe. Most shoes are neutral," he said.

It is vital to orthopedic health that the running shoes you choose provide proper support. Colourful new designer sneakers don't finish the race in that regard.

Chiropractors like Dr. Moore can advise on the best shoe for each type of foot. He also suggested that high quality sport shoe stores, like Runners World, can help you find the right pair of sneakers.

"The shoe should take up the slack, and if you're wearing the wrong shoe then you can wind up with anything from shin splints to Achilles tendonitis, knee, hip and back problems, or headaches," Dr. Moore said.

"It all starts with the foot, the foot is the foundation," said Dr. Moore. He said if you wear the wrong shoes the entire body can be affected from head to toe.

Dr. Moore diagnoses new glamour shoes as "fancy-

looking junk."
"They're a \$2 piece of product being sold as a running shoe. There is only a small percentage of the population that requires a neutral shoe, and all the new fancy sequined runners that are in style are weak neutral shoes," he said.

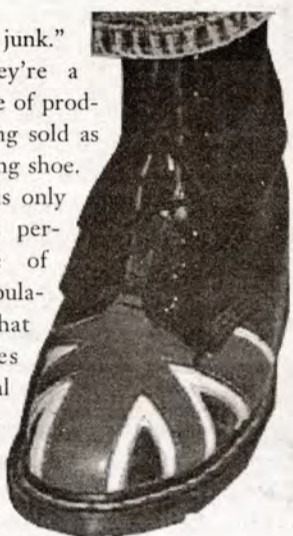
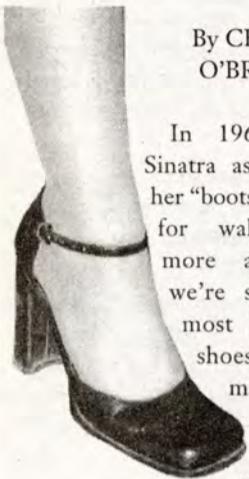
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In 1966, Nancy Sinatra asserted that her "boots were made for walkin'" but more and more, we're seeing that most boots, and shoes for that matter, aren't. "The shoe is not only to separate the foot from the ground," said Elizabeth Semmelhack, curator of the Bata Shoe Museum. "We're social creatures looking for ways to differentiate ourselves, and wearing impractical shoes is a way to proclaim one's status."

Recently reincarnated from an old-fashioned trend, the running shoe now has a status all its own. From an orthopedic perspective, the right shoes are the best medicine.

"A young woman who wears heels regularly will most likely have chronic back problems later on in life," said Dr. Peter Moore, from Moore Chiropractic in Markham.

"Heels shorten the calf muscles, which does not allow the hip to extend properly and the pressure comes onto the lower back. It's a snowball effect."

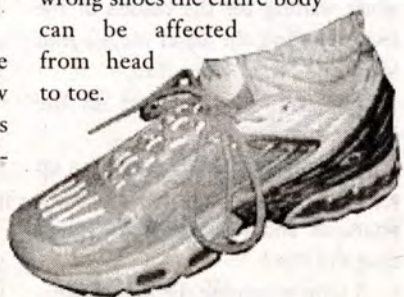
The new fashion sneaks on the market make choosing the best shoe an even more difficult task.

With all their glam and glitter, who can see past the new fashion shoes to the stabilizing Nikes and Reeboks?

According to Semmelhack, running shoes have made a comeback because we've reached the end of a 20-year cycle that fashion trends typically go through.

"Back in the early '80s people wore the Converse high-top to proclaim an anti-establishment kind of status, choosing anti-fashion with practical footwear," Semmelhack said.

Dr. Moore diagnoses new glamour shoes as "fancy-



Health and safety education imperative for keeping employees safe on the job

By MELISSA KIVINEN

Newmarket hair stylist Tara Costoff settles into a fuzzy leopard print chair. At 22, she has carpal tunnel syndrome in both wrists, a painful soft tissue condition caused by hours of repetitive motion and aggravated by on-the-job strain.

"By the end of the day my wrists ache," she said. "But I work on commission, so if I miss a day, I don't get paid. Being sick is not an option."

Carpal tunnel syndrome is just one of the many threats Ontario workers face each year. According to the Ontario government, 61 people between the ages of 18 and 24 were killed on the job in 2000, while another 68,000 in the same age group lost time due to workplace accidents.

Like an estimated 30 per cent of Ontario's work force, Costoff doesn't have the safeguard of workplace health insurance. What's more, many Canadians don't even realize that there is no standardized plan in place to protect them from lost wages and other costs associated with workplace accidents and illnesses.

"Hair salons are not compulsorily covered by law," said Blossom Dunkley of the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB). "Though salon owners can purchase coverage from the WSIB, a private insurer or an employer can opt to have no insurance at all."

According to Dunkley, workers can sue their employer in the event of a work-related accident or illness. But that process can be lengthy and expensive.

"I see a chiropractor for my wrists," Costoff said.

"But I can usually go only two or three times a year because it gets expensive. I think it's wrong that hairstylists, who work with toxic chemicals and sharp tools, aren't covered by the WSIB."

The government is taking steps toward making employers accountable for their workers' health and accident insurance. The Ontario government recently proposed that financial institutions take responsibility by paying for their employees' compensation. If approved, their employers, not the province, would



FILE PHOTO

It takes more than hard hats to protect Ontario's workers.

insure bank employees across the province.

According to their Web site, the WSIB is reviewing its current policy for Ontario workers. A recent statement posted on the site said the current coverage system needs to be updated, pointing out that new industries are unintentionally omitted from coverage because they didn't exist when the policy was implemented in 1915.

But critics fear that too much corporate responsibility for health care may result in more contract labour and less full-time employment for Canadians. Their employers are classifying many Ontario trade workers as "independent contractors." This trend, which leaves workers without health benefits, is increasing rapidly.

Jaime Hineman, a 23-year-old retail employee in Beaverton, experienced a work-related injury before she actually arrived to work.

"I was walking through the parking lot to the store one morning after a big snow storm, and I slipped and fell on a patch of ice," she said.

Hineman's employer sent her to the hospital in a taxi where she was diagnosed with a mild concussion. She missed two days of work.

The sick days Hineman used had already been banked with her employer. If her injury had required an extended period of time off, her employer would have had to assume full liability under the Ontario Health and Safety Act (OHSA) as well as liability under the Worker's Compensation Act (WCA).

The law requires all parking lots and walkways on company property

to be plowed or shoveled regularly, and a sufficient amount of sand or salt must be supplied to reduce the likelihood of accidents.

Canadians need to be educated on workplace safety, said Deana Papagianis, a spokesperson from the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety. She recommended addressing your employer immediately if you detect unsafe work conditions or if you have questions about safety policy and procedure. After all, she said, the best insurance is the one you never need to use.

Safety rights for employees

- Your employer must tell you about workplace hazards, including dangerous materials and chemicals and training must be provided.

- Participate in making your workplace safe. Ask your employer or your health and safety representative about how you can help.

- If you believe your work is unsafe, you have the right to refuse that work until the situation is amended. Tell your supervisor immediately and stay in a safe place near your work station. You cannot be fired or docked pay for refusing unsafe work.

- Report unsafe conditions to your supervisor.

Source: WSIB Ontario

New study proves smog can harm

A University of Toronto study has revealed that the affects of smog could cause a heart attack for those who are already ill and live in the city.

By VIRGINIA WATSON

Pollution problems in cities like Toronto may contribute to heart disease in otherwise healthy individuals, according to a new study.

The University of Toronto study was conducted by a team of experts on 25 adult men and women between the ages of 18 and 50. The participants were all non-smokers with no history of cardiovascular problems.

The study will be published by the American Health Association on April 4, said Jeffrey Brook, a member of the team that conducted the study.

The study measured the constriction of the arm's brachial artery when participants breathed in polluted air for two hours. The brachial artery is the largest artery in the arm and is similar in size to the main artery of the heart, Brook said.

"The smog produced in the

chamber is equal to the absolute worst levels you would find in Toronto," Brook said.

This type of pollution is typical across southern Ontario in the summer when the air near the ground is cooler than the air above it. Since hot air rises, the cool air, which contains the pollutants, is trapped close to the ground.

"It's really calm and stagnant, so the winds don't go anywhere and pollutants don't rise out," Brook said.

The study concluded that after two hours in the inhalation chamber, the artery had constricted between two and four per cent. But is that sufficient change?

"It's not a lot for a healthy person, but for people who are quite sick with cardiovascular problems, it could be enough to destabilize their system for a heart attack," Brook said.

He added that the level of pollution in the chamber could produce a

greater response in the constriction of the artery, but because of the ethical issues involved, it would be impossible to perform such tests on humans.

"There has been a lot of publicity on how smog kills 1,000 people a year in Toronto, but these studies have been based on statistics," Brook said.

The study he and his team performed was aimed at showing how these deaths may have occurred.

"It helps convince people that it is not statistical magic," he said.

The people who are most at risk for exposure to air pollutants are

those who work outdoors in the presence of off-road diesel vehicles, or heavy machinery such as construction workers.

Brook is most concerned about trying to understand the impact pollutants will have on the human body. "If people are experiencing this two to four per cent constriction day in and day out, we need to know whether this is another factor leading to heart disease in healthy Canadians."

Professions such as firefighting are taking these findings seriously, especially when it comes to training students.

To be accepted into Humber's Fire and Emergency Services program, applicants must participate in a rigorous physical fitness test to

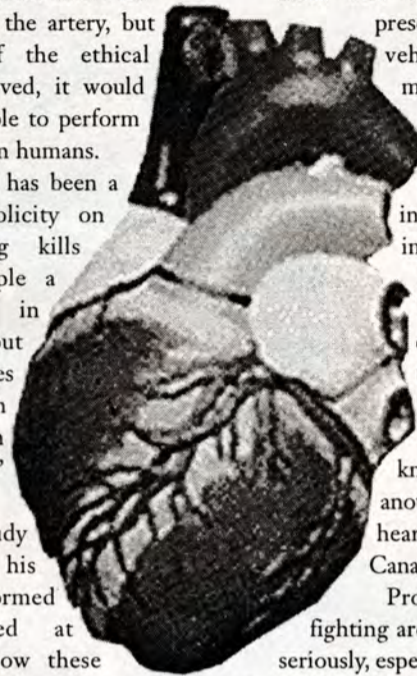
prove that they are fit enough to carry the required equipment.

"Firefighters wear full bunker gear or fire retardant pants and jacket, gloves, helmet and safety gear," said John Woodbury, Operations Manager of Humber College's Fire and Emergency Services Program.

In addition to educating students about the importance of wearing safety equipment, the program teaches would-be firefighters how to use a Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus properly.

The SCBA connects to a face piece that covers the eyes, nose and mouth. Firefighters have about 30 minutes of air in their cylinder, which protects them from potentially harmful contaminants during a fire.

"It's not just the particles you can see that are a problem, Woodbury said. "We learn from these studies, we wear SCBA longer and put them on earlier to avoid breathing in contaminants."



Hep C find raises fresh tattooing fears

By CHRISSIE O'BRIEN

Actress Pamela Anderson brought the dangers of unsafe tattooing into the spotlight last week when she admitted to contracting hepatitis C after sharing a tattoo needle with her ex-husband Tommy Lee.

Entertainment Tonight reported Anderson's condition last Thursday. In a statement through her publicist, Anderson said: "I contracted hepatitis C while sharing a tattoo needle with my ex-husband, Tommy Lee. A mutual doctor confirmed this . . . Tommy has the disease and never disclosed it to me during our marriage."

Anderson and Lee are in the midst of a bitter custody battle for the couple's two children, which many believe may have spawned Anderson's allegations.

"That kind of thing wouldn't happen in Canada," said Jay McKay, senior artist and manager of Lucky Devil Tattoos and Body Piercing in Newmarket. Nevertheless, artists in the body art community are preparing for the backlash.

"When a problem like that comes up in the media we will usually feel repercussions after about a month," said Beth Foster, receptionist at Queen Street's Way Cool Tattoos in Toronto. Hepatitis is a disease that affects the liver.

According to Health Canada's Web site, symptoms such as jaundice and fatigue do not begin to appear until 20 or 30 years after the initial infection.

Health Canada estimates only 30 per cent of the approximately 200,000 infected Canadians know they have the virus. Because the hepatitis C virus is contracted through direct contact with infected blood or blood products, Health Canada said tattoo needles can transmit the disease if used incorrectly.

"To my knowledge, no governing body monitors tattoo artists," said Josie Sirna, program consultant at Health Canada's Centre for Infectious Disease Control.

The controls for the body art community are self-imposed, placing the responsibility of protecting against hep C on tattoo artists and piercers.

A standard policy for tattoo artists is that no needle is used twice, because they know they are under the watchful eye of their customers and each other.

"No reputable shop would tattoo anyone with a used needle," McKay said. "Your business is based on how you keep your shop. If you walk into a shop and it hasn't been vacuumed properly you can complain."

McKay said when they're done a tattoo the used materials are thrown away.

"Ink is taken from its bottle and put into the cap. When we're finished, the tattoo, the caps, the needles and the gloves all go straight into the trash. Everything is cleaned with alcohol," McKay said.

Currently, Health Canada said hep C is most commonly transmitted through IV drug users' contaminated needles.

But, Sirna warns, all customers are susceptible and must ensure that

all tools of tattooing are sterilized.

Many artists and shop keepers also screen their clients by having them sign a waiver that asks about hepatitis C as well as many other communicable diseases.

"The only time people ever ask us about hepatitis C is when they actually have it," Foster said.

"We have it right on the waiver. We'll tattoo someone with hep C, but we'll take extra precautions."



McKay (left) manages a tattoo shop in Newmarket called Lucky Devil Tattoos.

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In Focus etc.

Top dogs at work

By NATALIE MANDIC

Kelly moves eagerly through the airport lobby, nose to the ground, eyes scanning the area in front of her. She stops momentarily at each chair, garbage can and desk, thoroughly sniffing every surface and crevice of each object and then continues on her way. Still sniffing everything as she walks, she approaches the last plush, fuchsia chair in a row of 20 and pauses briefly.

At last, she sits. Her ears perk up, her mouth grinning, eyes searching for approval.

From his pocket, Officer Bruce Mann of the Greater Toronto Airports Authority pulls out a rope with a red rubber ball on the end and throws it at the floor. Kelly leaps after the rubber toy in hopes of a short game of tug-of-war before continuing with her search. As he plays with the dog, Mann encourages and praises her.

Kelly has successfully located harmful explosives hidden inside the innocuous chair.

Police dogs have always been the silent partners in search operations, unknowingly risking their lives for their masters. Only recently, after the boost in airport security since September, have these brave creatures gained some of the appreciation they deserve for the service they provide.

Their value is now apparent, with countless departments looking to increase the number of dogs on their

team. Police dogs have now become an essential part of policing.

The Greater Toronto Airports Authority Canine Services, which is currently holding a 40-day training course in explosive-detection, has added two new German Shepherds to their team of four specialty explosive detection dogs. For eight weeks, these dogs, as well as two dogs from the Toronto Police Service, will be trained to pick up 16 different explosive scents in a variety of scenarios and locations, including the airport terminal, baggage area, cargo area and vehicle and building searches.

Scott Fowlds, a Toronto Police canine handler taking part in the bomb detection course, said that until last year the Toronto police had only one explosive detection dog on the force. Now they have three.

In Lindsay, a town located 120 kilometres north east of Toronto, police currently only have one general service police dog, but have been contemplating adding more since Sept. 11. The town's force may become part of the Ontario Provincial Police and more dogs may be required.

Because police dogs are in such high demand, they have become quite costly animals, running upwards of \$2,000 U.S. depending on the type of dog and its breeder. Additional costs include fees for dog training, as well as the usual housing, feeding and maintenance expenses.

The relationship between a working dog and his handler is very similar to that of a regular house pet and its owner. The dog and handler share a close connection and engage in typical everyday activities like walking and grooming.

"You spend as much time with this dog as you do your family, so he is an important part of your life," Officer Mann said.

According to Mann, training and encouragement go hand in hand.

"Everything is positive. It's fun, it's happy. To them, they work because it's a game," he said.

Working dogs generally live with their trainers, who are essentially their owners.

The majority of the dogs are kept outside in a kennel when they aren't working or playing. Keeping a dog outside in its own kennel ensures it can rest efficiently and will be prepared to work when the time comes, Mann said.

Lindsay Police canine officer Jeff Wentworth keeps his dog, Flint, outside for other reasons.

"One is to acclimatize the dog. The second reason is that to bring him into the house is to humanize him. Because everything he does is a game, I would have to teach him a bunch of new things once inside the house," he said.

The average general-service police dog will work for five years, depending on his health, before he goes home with his handler and becomes a family pet.

By the time a dog is nine years old, he is generally ready for permanent retirement. By that age the dogs have been worked enough that their bodies, particularly their hips, may start to deteriorate.

"We want to retire these dogs when they're still healthy and happy. We want them to have a good life after too," Mann said.

Back at the airport, Kelly continues her search of the terminal in anticipation of her next reward. With her nose to the ground, her ears perked and her eyes alert, she scans the area, once again, for harmful explosives. All this for a simple game of tug-of-war.



Kelly, the police dog, keeps Toronto's International Airport safe by sniffing out potential dangers.

NATALIE MANDIC

The making of a star

When it comes to picking prime police dogs, not just any breed will do. Chosen dogs must display certain qualities. The majority of general-service police dogs consist of German shepherds, because of their agility, playful personality and overall body structure. Malinois, Labrador retrievers and Springer Spaniels are also used for bomb and drug detection. In the U.S., Rotweillers have also been used in policing.

After a dog is chosen for police work, it must undergo a basic training course. For most dogs on the Toronto police force, it's 15 weeks of thorough training.

- **Obedience and Control:** Obedience is the basis for all dog training and is done off-leash. Without obedience, control of the animal is impossible.
- **Agility:** The dog is trained to jump over obstacles, crawl under obstacles and climb a ladder.
- **Tracking:** The dog is trained to track a suspect for a minimum of 30 minutes at a minimum of 600 to 800 paces, in an area consisting of vegetation, dirt and hard surfaces.
- **Retrieving:** The dog is taught to retrieve an article thrown over a hurdle. The dog must jump the hurdle on command and fetch the item, jumping over the hurdle once again on the way back.
- **Article Search:** The dog is taught to find an article, such as a screwdriver or shotgun shell, inside an area of vegetation that is at least eight inches in height. Only the dog is allowed in the area to search out the article.
- **Building Search/Area Search:** The dog is taught to search a building or open area, off-leash, and locate a hidden or exposed suspect, indicating a find by barking.
- **Criminal Apprehension:** The dog is trained to chase a suspect and hold onto the arm of the suspect until otherwise instructed by its trainer. The dog is also taught to apprehend and disarm a suspect armed with a weapon.

Life etc.

Literature is club's first love

By LAURA KUPCIS

This summer the Humber School for Writers will once again be offering a writer's workshop.

The program runs from July 20 to 26 and will cost approximately \$700.

"It is a week-long intensive workshop for writers of novels, short stories, and poetry," said Madeleine Matte, associate director of the Humber School for Writers.

Instructors for this summer will include such authors as Bruce Friedman, Isabel Huggan and Kim Moritsugu.

Over 150 students have had either novels or short stories published after taking this course.

To prepare for a life of writing, perhaps joining a book club to discuss works by the masters is a good way to learn what works within a novel.

"I think it would probably be beneficial. You examine things like plot, dialogue and style, all the things that go into making a novel," Matte said.

If reading, not writing, is your cup of tea, Toronto is filled with book clubs where you can meet to discuss books and spend time relaxing with others.

Toronto resident Lyn Center and her friends realize the value of downtime. Once a month since 1995, seven friends have gathered together to talk about a book.

They have h'ors d'oeuvres and a potluck dinner and sit around to discuss a book. The evening usually lasts three to four hours, where casual conversation, as well as book discussion takes place.

A surge in South Asian literature prompted Bilal Ahmed to start the South Asian Book Club at the University of Toronto in September 2001.

The group meets monthly to discuss books by South Asian authors, holds discussions, a

lecture series and short story competitions.

"We welcome ideas and participation of all students who have an interest in South Asian literature," Ahmed said.

For Aurora resident Orla Kipling, her group The Paper Back Princess Book Club, offers a chance to expand her reading list past the usual Danielle Steele novels.

Once a month, a group of ten meets in a member's home, but anyone is welcome to join.

"We hope to hold an upcoming meeting at a paint your own pottery store, just to mix things up a bit," Kipling said.

There are only three rules in this club: the books have to be non-fiction, less than \$20 and paperback.

For a more organized opportunity to discuss books with others, Ann Kirkland has the perfect week planned out, although a bit on the pricey side.

A literary lover herself, Kirkland realized the need for a book discussion group and created Classical Pursuits, a program that offers people the chance to step away from everyday life, read some good books, explore Toronto and meet new people.

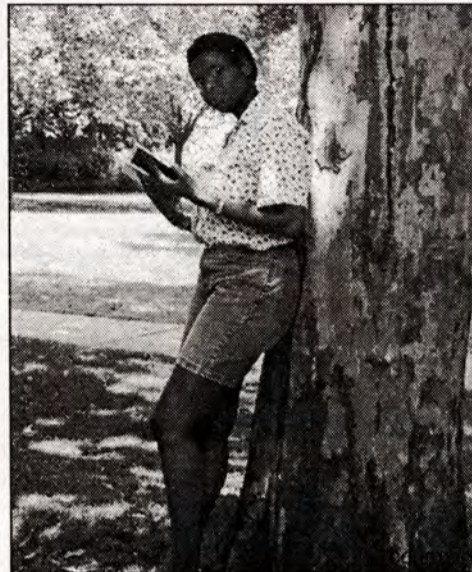
The program is designed to suit everyone, no prerequisites, no tests and no lectures. It is about fun, stimulating conversation and learning through sharing.

Kirkland set up her literary week four years ago through the Continuing Education program at U of T's St. Michael's College.

The week-long program, from July 7-13, costs \$1,000 and includes books, opening and closing receptions, lunches, Friday evening at Massey College and selected afternoon and evening facilities.

A group of people, maximum of 15, get together every day for six days to discuss a selected work guided by a skilled leader.

"Through questioning, the leader probes people to come up with their own interpreta-



Pictured above is one of the many Classical Pursuits members.

tion," Kirkland said.

Ten separate groups all examine different topics. A participant can choose to study one novel or a theme, such as the works of Flannery O'Connor or the concept of desire from the ancient to the modern. Some groups expand to look at music, art, poetry and literature, while others will concentrate solely on one classic such as *The Canterbury Tales*.

"Readers love the really reflective discussion about important ideas," Kirkland said.

This year's program will start out with a cultural encounter between Canadians and Americans. Kirkland has invited ex-patriates to discuss their views of Canada, why they stayed, what they like, whether they feel like a Canadian.

The week will begin with a forum, as half of her participants come from the United States and would like to learn about Canadians.

Weekend programs have also been set up and a two-week trip to Italy has been planned for May.

Oprah's book club tips

THE FIRST MEETING:

- Who will lead the discussions; will be the same person or different people each time?
- Where will the meetings be held?
- Food and refreshments: will there be a theme?
- Price limit of books?
- Who will keep a record of the meetings, books read, who picked them?

CHOOSING A BOOK:

- Everyone should suggest two books include additional material such as reviews.
- Encourage discussion to decide on the books.
- If a consensus cannot be reached within 30 minutes then chose to either take a vote, take turns either alphabetically, by birthday, etc. or put all suggestions in a bowl and pick one.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Look at the publisher's Web site, most of which suggest discussion questions or reading guides, author information, and interviews.
- These Web sites offer general reading group questions: www.bookbay.com; <http://canadianbookclubs.com/tips.html>
- While reading the book make notes which will help you develop questions

To join The South Asian Book Club: bilal.ahmed@utoronto.ca

To join The Paperback Princess Book Club: okipling@hotmail.com; becprins@aci.on.ca

For additional information on Classical Pursuits: Ann Kirkland 416-892-3580 or 1-877-633-2555

To register for the Writer's Workshop, pick up a brochure in room A100.

- L.K.

Bi-annual trade show offers everything that's one of a kind

By RENEE BOROVITCH

The One Of A Kind Spring show will spring up this weekend in Toronto, drawing in crowds from all over Ontario.

Patti Stewart, director of this year's One Of A Kind Spring Show said this year's event at the National Trade Centre will live up to its name and be bigger and better than in previous years.

"It's definitely going to be different than last year's show," Stewart said. "It'll be more than just a place to shop, it will be an event."

More than 450 artists have rented booths, 120 of them are new to this popular trade show. Stewart said do-it-yourselfers will appreciate the seminars on decorating and

craft tips for home decor and trends.

Fashion mavens will enjoy the fashion shows, featuring clothing by the artisans who made them.

As the show falls on Easter weekend, another innovation this year is an "one-of-a-kind" Easter egg competition for all participating artisans, using the medium in which they specialize.

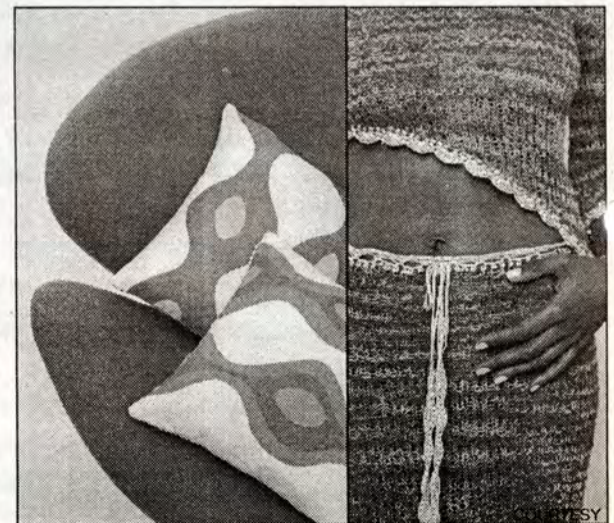
Because the show's artisans work with many different materials, organizers expect entries made of leather, wood, chocolate, paper and glass, just to name a few.

Attendees with children should also be happy to hear of yet another free service this year - the "one of a kind" family centre. This will include daycare for children ages two to

eight, and an art centre for kids eight and over where they can dabble in cartooning and decoupage.

Admission is \$10 for adults and \$6.50 for seniors and students. Children 12 and under get in free. Hours are Wednesday March 27, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Thursday March 28, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Good Friday March 29, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday March 30, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Easter Sunday March 31, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information and a discount coupon, visit their Web site at www.oneofakindshow.com



Canada's largest arts and crafts show hits Toronto.

Skin in the city

By YASNA MARKOVIC

Living in this city, pollutants and smog are constantly wreaking havoc on the skin.

Add to this a harmful mix of stress from school, work and some semblance of a social life and your skin will be the first organ to react, but not the way you want it to.

Under stress, skin can lose its vitality and glow and become dull.

"Your skin will always reflect how you are feeling or

how you are taking care of yourself," said Claudia Ferderber, a cosmetician at Shoppers Drug Mart.

Ferderber added that lack of sleep, an improper diet, smoking and alcohol intake are your skin's worst enemies, causing it to break out.

Dull skin is something that has plagued us for years, but taking care of your skin will ensure that it will always look and feel its best, she said. Ferderber recommended a skin care regime based on your skin type.

Cosmetic companies, are no strangers to the idea of stressed and dull skin, are always coming up with new ways to combat our skin's enemies.

To help detoxify your skin, Biotherm has created a new detoxifying line of cleansers, toners, moisturizers and facial masks aimed at ridding the skin of impurities caused by pollution, smog, bacteria and other skin stressors.

Revlon has also created the new Skinlights line of powders and creams that add a vibrant sheen to dull skin.

On the more expensive side, Lancôme has its Vitabolic line of vitamin C moisturizers and Christian Dior has its Vitalmine moisturizer.

Ferderber said vitamin C is a key ingredient to boost your skin's radiance and vitality.

You don't have to look past your refrigerator to whip up fast remedies to your skin's ailments.

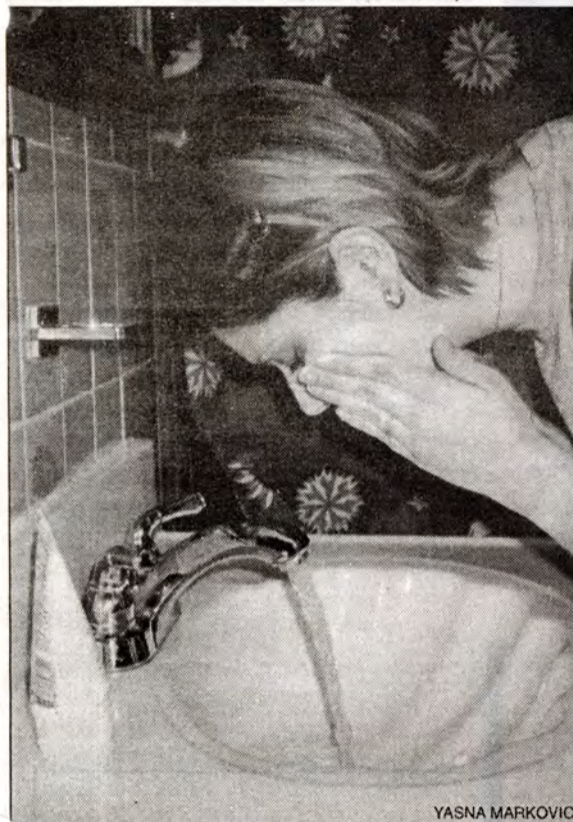
If you prefer a more natural approach to taking care of your skin, mayonnaise is a great tool.

It has a potent combination of egg and oil which soothes and softens the skin, recommended Lori Dickerson, a skin technician.

Dickerson also suggested oatmeal which is a natural exfoliant.

Lemon juice can be another effective remedy for dull skin, while milk and honey are great for their soothing properties.

"You can mix mayonnaise with honey and oatmeal. It smells awful and is messy, but it does work," Dickerson added.



YASNA MARKOVIC

Cleansing routine is key to healthy looking skin.

Skin type specifics	Dry	Oily	Normal/Combination
	No visible pores. Can feel tight and dry. May have some fine lines.	Large visible pores over the majority of the face.	Visible pores in the T-zone (forehead, nose and chin) with some shine. Blackheads and blemishes may be visible. Cheeks are generally dry with little or no visible pores.
Cleanser	Cleansing Milk will cleanse without stripping moisture.	Cleansing Gel and products containing white clay are great for oily skin.	Foaming cleanser will moisturize cheeks without adding oil to the T-zone.
Toner	Alcohol-free toner	Look for a toner with some alcohol or mattifying agent to absorb oil and shine.	Look for a toner with some alcohol
Moisturizer	Rich moisturizer to replenish skin.	Oil-free moisturizer	Light-weight moisturizer

Proper Skin Cleansing Techniques

Washing your skin properly is important in keeping it healthy and vibrant.

1. Begin by removing eye makeup with a proper eye makeup remover.
2. Cleanse to remove face makeup. When using cleanser, start at the neck using upward and outward motions with both hands. This works the cleanser into the pores to help dissolve oil, dirt and makeup.
3. Always splash off with lukewarm water. Ferderber warned against using a cleansing sponge to remove cleanser, since "it can hold bacteria which can be the major source of breakouts for oily skin."
4. Follow with toner to remove any remaining dirt. This helps to regulate the skin's ph balance and prepare it for moisturizer.
5. The final step is to moisturize. The best way to apply it is to put a little on the fingertips and dot it on the nose, forehead, chin and cheeks. Very lightly, smooth it out with your fingertips.

- Y.M.

Water experts not needed

By MICHELLE SABA

Straight out of the dining rooms of New York's luxurious hotels comes the newest addition to the dining experience: a water sommelier.

A what?

Most people have heard of a wine sommelier, an expert who can help guests choose what grape goes with their meal. Well, now the same advice is being offered about water.

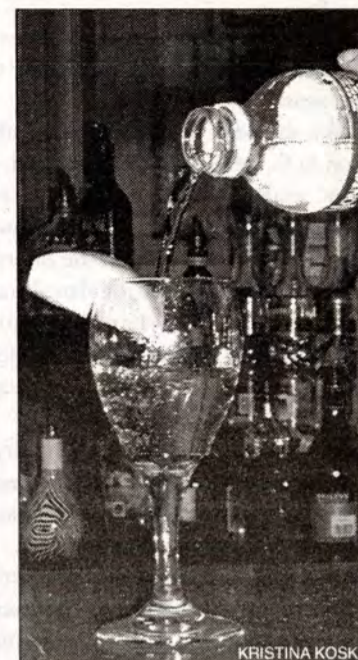
In New York City, the exclusive Ritz Carlton has hired one of the first water sommeliers.

Ramesh Srinivasan, coordinator of Humber's Hospitality Management program, has been in the hospitality industry for over 20 years and said the idea of a water sommelier is a new one, if somewhat impractical.

"I don't see any rationale behind water being paired with food with the intention of accentuating a whole dining experience," Srinivasan said.

He adds that most people drink water, a neutral beverage, to quench thirst, cool them down on a hot day, or to turn down the heat after eating spicy food. The idea has never been to enhance the flavour of food.

Srinivasan said the Ritz may have hired the water sommelier as a revenue-generating source, and that the sommelier would be expected to push the expensive bottled water. So will this water



KRISTINA KOSKI

Will this water compliment your dinner? Experts say no.


trend hit Toronto's top hotels?

Kevin Girard of the beverage management team at Hilton Toronto said that although they have followed the bottled water fad and have a wide selection, they are not considering hiring a water expert.

"Although many people consume water for health purposes, they may not be receptive to being told what water to drink, but it's an excellent marketing scheme," Girard said.

Whether this water sommelier position will pop up in other hotels is still questionable since no certification is required, unlike a wine sommelier.

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Potential online lovers beware

By CHRISTINA GELINAS

A recent television ad for America Online features an adolescent girl promoting the site's chat rooms.

"You shouldn't be afraid because other people on AOL are just like you," she said.

But aside from arranging a face-to-face meeting, there is no sure way to know exactly who you're chatting with on the Internet.

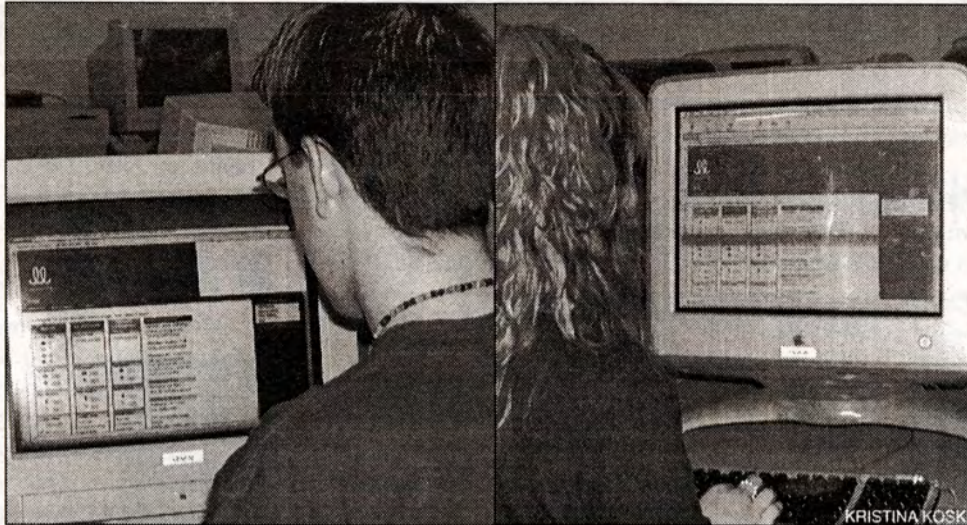
While some consider it a dangerous move, many have found meaningful relationships online. Internet dating has become, for many, a convenient way to meet new people and spark new relationships.

Canadian sociologists Robert Brym and Rhonda Lenton surveyed 1,200 people over the phone and over 6,500 people in an online survey at webpersonals.com last year.

According to a Canadian Press article, the 56-page report showed that 63 per cent of the respondents had sex with someone they met online, 60 per cent had at least one long-term relationship and three per cent had married an online partner.

The study said that career pressures and time constraints prevent people from getting out and meeting prospective love interests.

However, the study also revealed that 25 per cent of respondents said they misrepresented themselves over the Internet.



Background checks are recommended for surfers searching for that special someone.

Jen, a university grad from London, said she quit online chatting after a one-on-one meeting with an Internet friend was sour from the start.

"He told me he looked like Stone Cold Steve Austin. When I met him, he looked like Benny Hill, but younger," she said.

Jen realized this friend wanted more than just friendship from the moment they met and after an hour of feeling awkward and afraid, Jen left him and the whole chatting scene altogether.

"I was at a major low in my life," she said.

"And chatting makes you feel like you have friends. It draws you in and it's fun, but it was make-believe."

Jen said she still talks on the phone to one person she met online, but refuses to go to any chat sites.

There are resources for potential online daters. One site, www.saferdating.com, features dos and don'ts of Internet dating, cautions for first-time meetings and stories from online chatters and daters. For those who want to take the extra step, they can try a search engine like www.google.ca or online phone

directories to get a background check on who they're chatting with.

The Brym-Lenton report also offers safety tips and cautions online daters to use common sense when meeting someone for the first time, as if they'd met in a bar.

Jill Wylie, a youth worker in Cambridge, started chatting on ICQ, an instant internet messaging community, last year and met a friend who shared an interest in movies.

"It started out with us playing movie trivia games and then we chatted on the phone and went out for coffee," she said.

Wylie said they still chat online and on the phone and plan to go out again. But she exercises caution when chatting.

"I will ignore the obvious idiots who ask 'are you hot?', 'do you want to have cyber sex?' or make other immature comments," she said. And she said she never gives out her phone number. "I get their phone number first, then talk to them and scope them out," she said.

The Internet-dating thing is relatively new, about six years in the making according to the Brym-Lenton report. Basic safety re-training is in order for those first-time meetings, like using your own transportation to meet someone, telling a friend or relative where you're going, and knowing where the closest phone is. All of which are on the saferdating.com Web site.

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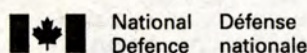
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Does Polly wanna Cracker?

Rock band Cracker show their worth with recent sold-out tour

By JAMES ROSE

Since Cracker has sold out almost every show on *Forever's* tour, it could be expected that they would be getting used to commercial success by now.

"(It's weird) just staying around for 11 years and still having this like amazing cult following," said lead singer and guitarist David Lowery.

Cracker's founding musicians are Lowery and Johnny Hickman who is the guitarist and vocalist. They are accompanied by Frank Furnaro on drums, Kenny Margolis on keyboards and Brandy Wood on bass.

Cracker associates themselves with older music that they think has substance.

"To me current music is, like, the last 35 years," Lowery said. "It might be something that the Stones did in 1969. They are just the sorts of archetypal rock stars to us."

In addition to the basic five performers on *Forever*, Cracker continued their tradition of using additional musicians on this album. A couple of the notable extra players are Mark Linkous and Victor Krummenacher, Lowery's former bandmate in Camper Van Beethoven.

On the *Forever* album they decided to use older techniques to make a different sort of record. They used the phrase "guarded by monkeys" repeatedly throughout the new album to get the desired humour.

"Our idea was to mention monkey more and more often until finally we could make a crazy person kind of record," Lowery said.

"We called (Archie Crisis) to do this anti-smoking commercial because our studio knew we could get these weird whacked musicians to do it," Lowery said.

"He doesn't return our call and then he's like, oh no man I would never compromise my art for a commercial yah man but I'm in like this medical experiment right now. It's, like, so fucked up and great," he said.

They developed their music using an unpredictable song-writing method that Lowery said is some sort of twisted charm for them.

"The centre core of our fans understand that every album is going to be a little different and fans not only expect that, they're glad that they can't quite pigeon hole us either," Lowery said.

Cracker tends to rely on unpredictability in their live shows by not using a set list. They said this is the easiest way to feel out the crowd.

"A show is a dialogue between the band and the audience," Lowery said. "We usually only decide on the first two, three, four songs or whatever because then you get a sense of what kind of crowd it is."

"I've gone to see a band two or three times in a row and disappointed to see the exact same show every night," added Hickman. "I can just watch this on television."

The guys get disappointed sometimes sharing the same stage with other bands.

"In rock music people get very carried up and carried away in 'this is our world and were the stars in this world' and stuff like that," Lowery said. "Even for bands that are relatively nice, it's hard."

They were honoured when they got the chance to open for the Grateful Dead.

"Grateful Dead were very nice to us, very cool," Hickman said.

"Very gracious true gentlemen," Lowery added.

Ultimately they hope to keep their positive vibes continuing for the next 11 years. Lowery just has one thing he uses to stay humble.

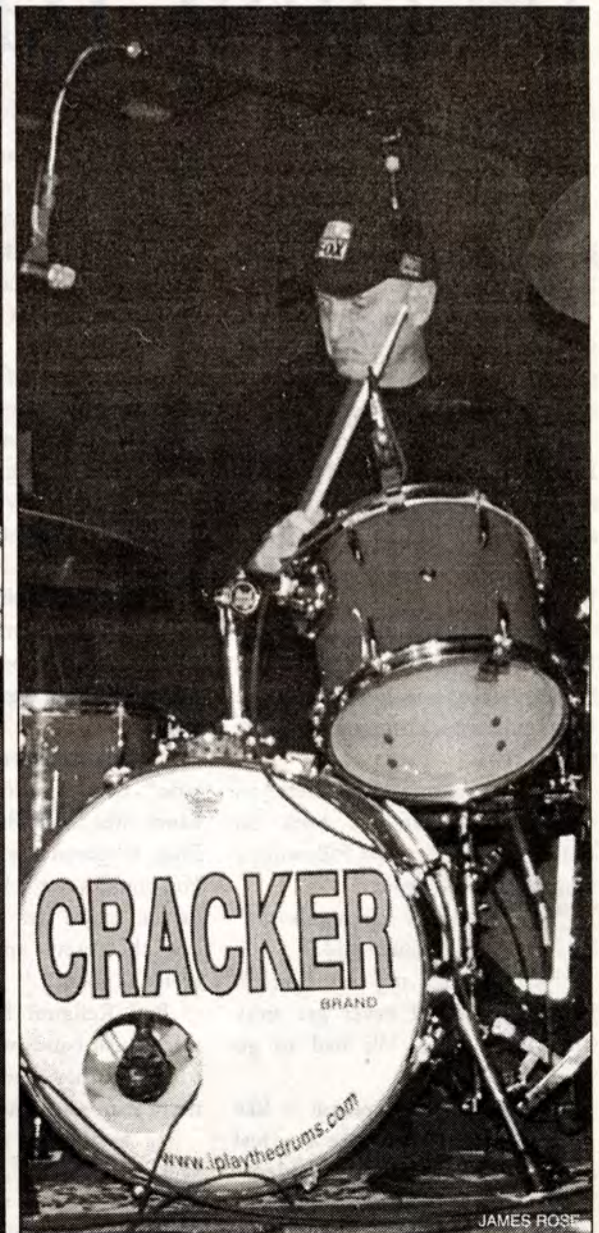
"We just try to remember what it was like when (we) opened for other bands."



JAMES ROSE



JAMES ROSE



JAMES ROSE



JAMES ROSE



COURTESY

Epitaph Records reclaims Bad Religion

By AARON SAWYER

For the past 20 years, California-grown rock band Bad Religion has been a cornerstone of punk rock.

Undeterred by age, the punkers, now in their mid-30s, recently rolled through Toronto, playing to a sold out crowd at the Kool Haus.

In 1993 Bad Religion left Epitaph Records, a label that was created for them. They left Epitaph after releasing six albums to join a major record label, Atlantic Records.

When Bad Religion split from Epitaph, they also split themselves, leaving behind a major part of the band, guitarist and songwriter Brett Gurewitz.

But after releasing five albums on Atlantic, the band is back on Epitaph and revitalized following a reunion with Gurewitz.

"At the time we had no choice," bass player Jay Bentley said.

"We couldn't stay on Epitaph because we could never get away from each other. We had to go somewhere."

"Being back on Epitaph is like coming home, it's where we feel most comfortable," Bentley added.

Along with the reunion with Gurewitz, Bad Religion has recruit-

ed a new drummer for its latest release, *Process of Belief*.

Brooks Wackerman joined Bad Religion after their previous drummer, Bobby Schayer, suffered a rotator disc injury that halted his musical career.

The addition of Wackerman has rejuvenated the band, allowing them to do things they couldn't do before.

"He can do things on a drum kit that I didn't know were physically possible," said Bentley. "He's amazing."

When Bad Religion formed in the early '80s, Bentley was only 15 years old and the punk scene was far more wild and aggressive than it is today.

"When we started we were just kids," Bentley said. "Playing with bands like Bad Brains and Black Flag, it scared the shit out of me. You could never tell what the bands or the crowd was going to do. It's not the same anymore. Things aren't as crazy."

Bad Religion has done something most bands will never be able to claim they have done: survive more than one generation of fans.

As they have grown and progressed as a band, their fans have grown right along with them.

For the most part, however, Bad

Religion still appeals to a younger crowd, while maintaining the older audience.

"There are some fans who have come all the way along with us," Bentley said.

"But when you're 19 or 20 years old you go to a lot of shows. Then you hit 25 and have a job and start a family, you don't go to shows anymore," he said.

"We're playing to a new audience, but I love it. It makes you still feel a part of something."

On their current tour, Bad Religion is being supported by Hot Water Music and Less Than Jake, two bands rapidly growing in popularity.

For Chuck Ragan, vocalist and guitarist for Hot Water Music, playing with Bad Religion is nothing short of a dream come true.

"I saw Bad Religion play for the first time when I was like 14. Being on tour with them is amazing," said Ragan.

"As the tour goes on, personalities are starting to come out and we're getting to know each other, it's really cool," he added.

Bad Religion will return to the Toronto area this summer with the Vans Warped Tour at Molson Park in Barrie.

Puddle of Mudd under review

Puddle of Mudd spent most of this year touring hoping to break the stigma of being just another new band on the music scene.

They have trekked through Toronto four times, with the latest show this past Tuesday at the Kool Haus.

The band has had a lot of time to improve their live show since the last time they were around when they were almost booed off stage.

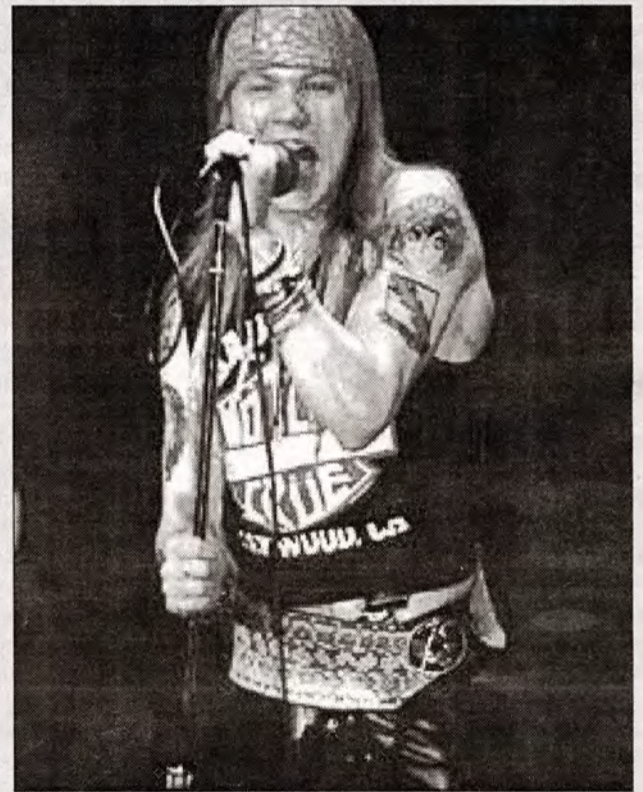
The band dominated the stage with more energy. Band members

Wes Scantlin on vocals and guitar, Paul Philips on back up vocals and guitar, Doug Ardito on bass and Greg Upchurch on drums performed the hour-long set with tracks off their debut album *Come Clean*.

Though Puddle of Mudd may be living a blurry life, these small and precise touches to their live show make it clear that they are in control.

- JAMES ROSE

Oh, sweet child o' mine...



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YOUR AD COULD BE HERE

HUMBER BUZZ Tom Foolery on playing the field

By ASHLEY MARTIN

In an industry dominated by clones and cash it's refreshing to see young musicians exploring new territory.

Tom Foolery is a seven-member funk style band. KC Roberts, a Humber College Music student and the singer/guitar player for the band explained their unique sound.

"Funk is a huge part right now because it's organic," Roberts said. "Because we don't have electronic things, it probably comes across more as funk. I'm also rapping over top of it and we try to get the urban feel. We have a jungle track and a couple house things."

Fellow band member and saxophone player Jared Welsh said, "We are using our jazz knowledge, the harmonics and theoretical stuff to basically write tunes that are funky and entertaining."

"Most of us are jazz students, whether it be at Humber College or the University of Toronto," Roberts added.

This is not your regular band. There is much more to the sound than the average guitar, drums and one prominent vocalist. Welsh plays the tenor saxophone.

"There is an alto sax as well to make up the horn section, then there is guitar, bass, drums and keyboard," Welsh said.

Welsh and Roberts agreed that their inspiration comes from various music and musicians.

"I listen to a lot of jazz and I like jazz but I get a lot of inspiration from other music too," explained Welsh. "I grew up on Hip Hop, R&B and Reggae."

In their year together, the band has played several different venues, including the Comfort Zone in Toronto.

Roberts recalled one of his most memorable moments with the band.

"We played this gig called the Salad Gold Event and we got a DJ, that was really fun," Roberts said.

"We got Hangman who was runner up at Scratchfest in Canada. He sat in with us and we also got a trumpet player. We played for about 400 people. That was really hype."

The group has been performing over the past year and their next step is getting a record deal so they can get their music out to the listeners.

"We are definitely going to try to get some recording done, something we can get to people that is high quality," Roberts said.

"We have a lot of groupies who come to our gigs and it's cool to see familiar faces," Welsh added.

Roberts hopes to play some festivals but said the band will be in and around Toronto playing gigs as often as they can.

"We are just writing songs that people can dance and have fun to ... we are having fun right now," Welsh said.



COURTESY



COURTESY

Tom Foolery sets an urban funk sound at a show played at the Oasis, a downtown bar.

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HOT SPOT Annex's friendly neighbourhood bar

By PAUL GURNSEY

On the north side of College at Bathurst Street is a dark, dimly lit establishment called Bistro 422. Patrons have been descending the Bistro's short flight of steps, seeking its cheap drinks and comfortable atmosphere for almost 20 years now.

"This is a friendly neighborhood bar. We have 90 per cent regulars – some people come here everyday rain or shine," said owner Dave Chopra.

This 35-seat watering hole is not trendy but does have a pleasant vibe and longevity that Chopra said can be directly attributed to the loyalty of his regulars and staff.

"We have one guy working here called Burger who has been here for 16 years and another guy who's been here for 15 and another for 11," Chopra said. "It's just a friendly place where all the staff are friends."

Adam Weimer, a student and semi-regular at Bistro 422 said, "I go there after work



PAUL GURNSEY

Bistro 422 has been a popular College Street hangout for more than 20 years.

sometimes – it's good. The beer is really cheap so there's usually a real mix of people – it's not really a yuppie-type place."

You won't find French mussels or duck

confit at this bistro but rather essential, inexpensive fare like burgers, ribs and chicken parmesan that patrons here have come to count on.

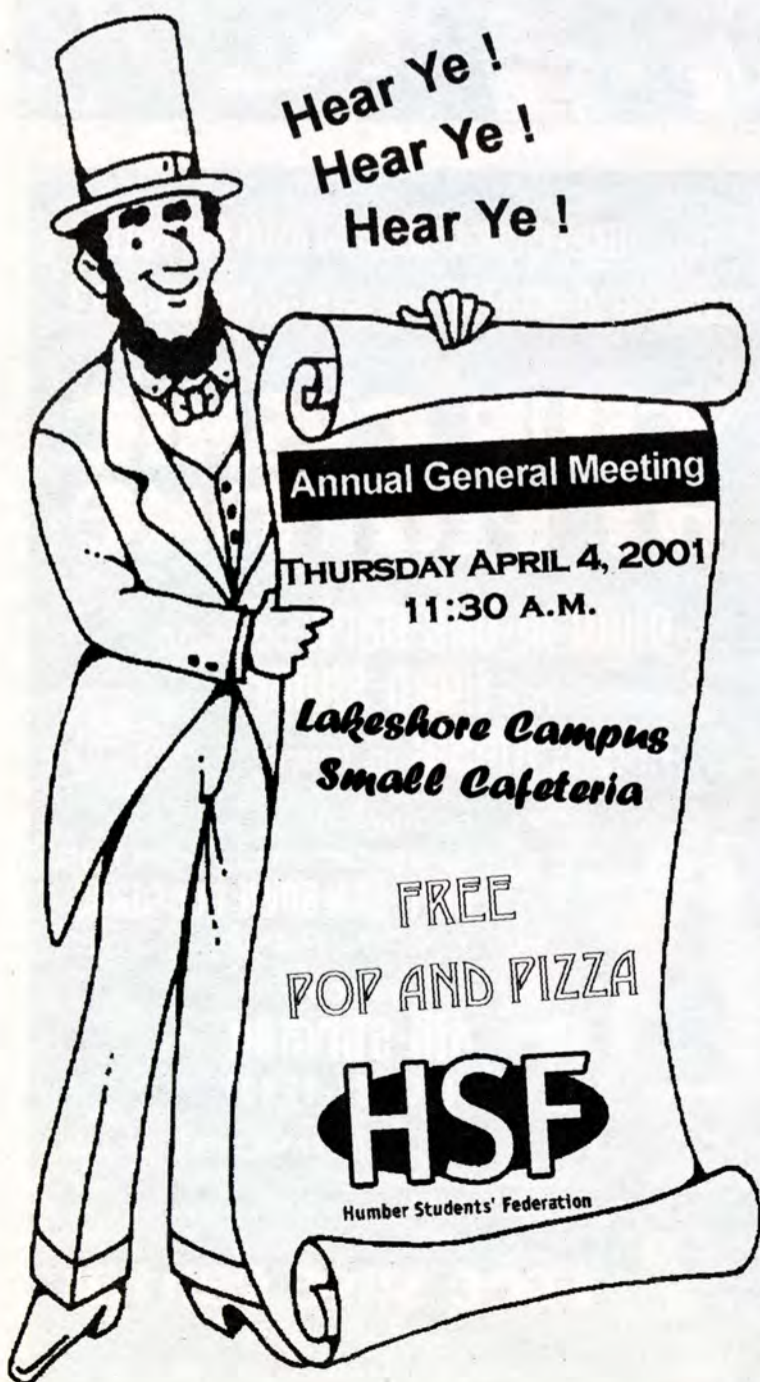
Oddly enough Chopra initially opened in this location as a Finnish eatery, but after the recession hit in the mid-eighties, he and his wife changed it into a casual dining room – a decision he doesn't regret.

One telling aspect of this restaurant is the extensive shooter and drink list, including the 422's own Punker's Puke, which occupies more than two-fifths of the entire space on the menu.

Basically Chopra provides his clientele with a welcoming spot where they can relax with a few drinks in the company of familiar faces. This is a simple, successful concept that he won't be changing any time soon.

The 45-seat patio will open as soon as weather permits.

Bistro 422 is located just east of Bathurst Street on the north side of College Street. To get there, go to Bathurst station and take the streetcar south to College Street. Walk east less than a block, and you'll find the bar at 422 College St.



CD REVIEWS



...And You Will Know Us By
The Trail of Dead
Source Tags and Codes
By TONI MARIE IPPOLITO

The album, *Source Tags and Codes*, is a drama of noise.

Bringing forth 11 songs on world reflection, reality and imagination, *And You Will Know Us By The Trail of Dead* (Trail of the Dead) tear, claw and rip into their music leaving you guessing who they really sound like.

The combination of songs which make up *Source Tags and Codes* resemble the spare parts of other musical greats, but in a completely unrecognizable form.

However, the band captures a little Sonic Youth on the album. The fourth track, "Homage", makes you wonder if lead vocalist Jason Reece was listening to fellow Texan band At-The-Drive-In the day he recorded it.

Reece and his mates, Kevin Allen, Neil Busch and Conrad Keely, brilliantly create an album that combines punk outbursts and precise drum rolls with strange but beautifully mastered melodic interludes in between.

Two songs that hold the album together are "Relative Ways," whose instrumental beginning recalls that of Granddaddy's "Crystal Lake" and the title track on the album with marching rolling beats and cascading guitar climaxes that spiral into yet another soft instrumental interlude.

It's noisy, loud, and sombre. It just needs to be listened to.



Joey Ramone
Don't Worry About Me
By TONI MARIE IPPOLITO

Sporting his famous mop-do, black shades and tight leather jacket, Joey Ramone was the epitome of rock and roll coolness without trying.

The punk-rock legend recorded the album last April in New York while dying from lymphatic cancer. With it, he leaves his legacy as the godfather of punk.

Ramone takes things a little further on *Don't Worry About Me* than past Ramones albums, noted for their volume, speed and three-chord riffs.

This cleverly titled album can be described as the most mature Ramones album ever. It is more than an epitaph.

Knowing the album was recorded in the last months before his death, you can't help but feel emotional when Joey sings "I want my life, It really sucks, sitting in a hospital bed, frustration through my head," in "I Got Knocked Down."

Things pick up as he slams through straight-forward rock tunes like "Stop thinking about me," "Feeling like a drug," "Mr. Punchy" and a cover of The Stooges' "1969."

The album ends with the title track, "Don't Worry About Me," and leaves the listener with the impression that Ramone will be okay in the afterlife.

For the most part, the album takes you back to the punk-rock world that is the Ramones. Every fan must add it to their collection. It's brilliant, fun, fast and under 35 minutes. True Ramones style.

Sports etc.

Disappointing loss for Lady Hawks

By KOLIN JONES

What a difference two weeks make.

After blowing away the competition and bringing home the gold at the OCAA Women's Basketball championships on March 9, the Humber Hawks finished a disappointing eighth place at the national championships in Calgary on the weekend.

Seeded seventh of eight teams entering the three-day tournament, the Hawks were looking to play the role of the underdog and hoping to come away with a medal.

"It's disappointing. We didn't play our best ball here," Humber coach Denise Perrier said.

They hit a roadblock in their first game when they met the second-seeded Mount Royal College Cougars, the tournament's host team. The crowd was electric, but Humber's fan base represented a very small percentage of those in attendance.

Humber trailed by only six at halftime, showing the Mount Royal faithful that these Hawks could play with the heavily-favoured Cougars.

The second half looked similar on paper, but the Cougars just proved to be too much for Humber. The Hawks shot much better from the field after halftime, but were a woeful zero-for-seven from three-point land in the second half.

The Cougars didn't exactly dominate the game, but their height advantage and deeper bench eventually buried the Hawks, 76-58.

The second round match-up with Montreal's Dawson Blues, seeded third, seemed pretty favourable for the Hawks. They came out of the gate strongly on both sides of the ball, but especially on defence.

Humber led 30-27 at the half, but Dawson came out of the break with new plans. The Hawk defence from a first half didn't return for the second. The Blues picked the Hawks apart, converting on 50 per cent of their shots after halftime. Dawson rolled to an 82-66 win, crushing Humber's medal hopes.

The loss to Dawson sent Humber to a showdown with the Nova Scotia Agriculture College (NSAC) Rams in the game that would decide seventh and eighth place. The Hawks' shooting woes continued as they were 26 per cent



Hawks rookie guard Karine Nicolas fights off a Dawson Blues player (12) during the second game for Humber in the CCAA championships in Calgary last week. Humber, seeded seventh out of eight teams, lost all three games they played and wound up in eighth place.

from the floor and about eight per cent from the three-point range.

A late first half run gave the Rams a ten-point lead at the intermission. The Hawks could not recover, giving Nova Scotia a 65-52 win and seventh place.

Humber's strong play was nowhere to be found. The normally dangerous three-point shooting team could not get anything to fall. The Hawks shot a dreadful 5-for-42 from the three-point range throughout the tournament.

Despite all the negatives that came out of the CCAA championships, Perrier still sees many positives.

"The test of what this team is, is not what comes down to the national championships," she said. "We're back-to-back OCAA champions."

The loss to the Rams marked the end of many playing careers, with guards Lindsay Higgs and Elaine Morrison and forwards Jennifer Gilchrist and Brenda Chambers graduating this year. Chambers went

out with a bang as she led Humber with 42 points in the tournament.

She was also one of the few Hawks who consistently knocked down her free throw attempts – successful on nine of the 10 from the line against NSAC.

Perrier could only compliment her team after a very disheartening tournament.

"They are good individuals and fun ladies. They have really matured and grown up. They have also matured and grown up on the bas-

ketball court," she said. "I'm proud of them and I'm very happy that I had the opportunity to coach them."

Perrier said next season will be a rebuilding year for the Hawks. She said she is excited about next year's team and its many new faces, as 10 players are not returning. The shaping of next year's team will begin as soon as this week, she said.

No matter who is brought in as the next group of Hawks, they will definitely have some giant shoes to fill.

Humber claims gold at OCAA indoor men's soccer championships

By ALICIA VELOCE

The men's indoor soccer team came out kicking last weekend, winning gold in the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA) championships.

The boys had no trouble advancing to the finals as they dominated in points, beating Sir Sanford Fleming 10-2 in the third game on Friday at the Scarborough Soccer Centre.

"Our defence was really sharp. Our goalie, Mike Silva, played really well," said mid-fielder Riccardo Rupa.

Saturday's games exemplified the over-powering efforts the Hawks took to beat Sheridan 4-2 and Seneca in the final with a 5-1 victory.

More than half of the team is composed of fall's outdoor soccer team. Rupa said that the newcomers adapted quickly to the indoor field and played well together.

The women's indoor soccer team also played during the tournament on Friday, but didn't have enough momentum to make it to Saturday, placing fifth in the tournament.

"We didn't have enough points to move on to Saturday," said co-captain Stephanie Wardell. "We started to wake up after the first game, but we just couldn't get it together."

Although their first game on Friday against Royal Military College in Kingston was a not-so-pleasing defeat of 5-1, the women woke up and won their second game against Redeemer College with a 2-1 victory. Their last game against George Brown ended in a 2-2 tie.

"RMC really came out hard. They really wanted it," Wardell said.

The girls were working with a new team during this tournament, rather than the usual fall outdoor soccer roster, which may have been a factor in their ability to gel as a team.

OCAA Indoor Soccer Championships Results

Men's Soccer

Gold Medal Game:
Humber 5, Seneca 1

Bronze Medal Game:
Sheridan 1, Royal Military College 0

Women's Soccer

Gold Medal Game:
Royal Military College 5, George Brown 0

Bronze Medal Game:
St. Lawrence (Kingston) 3, Centennial 2

A better shot for rink rats

By DOUGLAS JOHNSON

It's the new craze in hockey equipment – one-piece graphite hockey sticks – and hockey players from novice to the NHL want to get their hands on one.

The upside, according to coaches, is the consistency and performance it gives the player. The downside is the price: one stick costs \$229.

As a result, pundits figured that the stick would be sitting on the rack collecting dust. But they were wrong. If you try to buy one of these sticks at a sporting goods store in Toronto today, don't bet on leaving the store with one in your hand.

The Easton Synergy and the Louisville Response, the two models now available in retail stores, have become so popular that Ontario Hockey League players are having to purchase sticks from stores themselves because their team's equipment manager can't get enough sticks to supply the whole team.

Nilton Brum, an assistant manager at Sport Chek Yorkdale, said his store has been sold out of the sticks since October.

"We sold out within the first month they were in the store," he said. "Demand is so high, the Easton Synergy has been placed on back order from the manufacturer."

Louis Lussier, Toronto's Easton Sports representative, said the company has surpassed sales prediction for the stick this year.

"What we had originally expected to sell we've sold four times that amount," he said. "It's hard to keep up with the demand for it."

The Response and the Synergy, at 455 and 460 grams respectively, are about 30 per cent lighter than any other stick on the market. The one-piece graphite construction allows for energy to flow faster from shaft to blade when a player is taking a shot.

"The kick point is further down the shaft closer to the blade; this gives the player a quicker and more

accurate shot," Brum said.

Fans of the stick say another advantage that one-piece graphite hockey sticks have over wood sticks or graphite shafts is something called a graphite hosel. The hosel, located at the bottom of the shaft just above the blade, stores and releases energy when a player takes a shot. A graphite hosel helps create greater speed on a player's shot.

The blades on wooden sticks also wear down quickly, and with replacements costing \$35 each, the product can get quite expensive. Graphite sticks, however, are stiffer in the blade than wood sticks and don't chip as easily.

But if the hockey enthusiast wants to buy one of these sticks to last him the rest of his playing days, Brum said think again.

"One-piece graphite sticks are not designed for durability," he said. "They are designed to give the player better accuracy and consistent performance."

It's not just the performance that has triggered the retail demand of these sticks. John Mariconda, sales manager for Louisville Hockey, said NHL players' endorsements of the stick have certainly helped its popularity.

"Great NHL exposure has fueled the response at the retail level," Mariconda says. "The worldwide demand for the stick is phenomenal."

Easton's Lussier said he's been getting the same feedback from retail suppliers.

"Consumers see the NHL players getting an edge and better performance, so they will want to go and try it for themselves," he said.

Snipers Mats Sundin and Alexander Mogilny currently use the products.

The Maple Leafs' head equipment manager Brian Papineau said the Leafs who use the stick are pleased with the results.

"All the players using it seem to like it," he said. "They get more zip on their shots."

Just because NHL players are using the one-piece graphite stick doesn't mean that parents are rushing out to buy the sticks for their young stars. In fact, Brum says parents would rather buy a wood stick for their son or daughter because it's cheaper.

"Most parents come in because their kid wants it as a gift, or kids want it because someone on their team has it," he said. "Parents don't buy the

stick necessarily because it will help their kid get to the NHL. Parents are actually conscientious about the price. Most kids are saving up their money to buy it."

Next year, Easton is raising the price of the Synergy to \$249 and the Louisville Response will cost \$239. While Bauer and Hespeler are going to introduce their own sticks called the Triflex and Patriot for about the same price.

Even though he believed the stick would be popular, Louis Lussier said he never expected the Synergy to take off the way it did.

"When I started in this crazy business we made wood sticks that sold for \$9.99," he said. "Now we can't keep up with the demand for a stick that costs \$229."



COURTESY

If you're looking for a hockey stick that will give you more shooting accuracy and consistent performance, try the new Easton Synergy or Louisville Response retailing for around \$230 each.

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End to minor hockey violence needed

By MATTHEW IABONI

Over the past few decades, violence in minor hockey has increased. Take Massachusetts resident Thomas Junta for example, who recently was found guilty of murder for killing his son's hockey coach last year. Junta thought that hockey practice was getting too rough for his 10-year-old son. He ended up being counter-productive in proving his point.

Despite, or perhaps because of this incident, minor hockey-related violence is on the decline.

Mike Pearce, manager of officiating for the Greater Toronto Hockey League (GTHL) said things this year are quieter than last year. "Due to Sept. 11 the behaviour of parents has changed."

The number of violent incidents at hockey games this season is lower, confirms GTHL president John Gardner.

"The amount of parental violence cases at games has decreased this year more than in years before," Gardner said.

According to Pearce, about three or four parents get kicked out of games each year in the GTHL, and "that's very good when you consider there are over 10,000 games a year in the league."

However, three incidents in the past few months have catapulted this issue into the spotlight once again.

The most publicized of the three incidents was the Junta case. The two other incidents occurred right here in the GTA. In one case, a father allegedly attacked the referee after his son's hockey game became physical. The other occurred in Brampton when a parent attacked the opposing coach.

Last fall, a Brockville area man was also sentenced to house arrest after beating up his son's hockey coach.

"Because of the Junta case in the United

States the incidents here have been blown out of proportion," Pearce said.

Gardner is not concerned about the return of violence. The Canadian Hockey Association (CHA) implemented a rule four years ago to deal with minor hockey violence among coaches and parents.

The rule, which can be used anywhere in Canada, states that "any parent of a CHA player whose conduct in the arena is legitimately deemed to be disruptive and not conducive to the good of the game may be banned from such arenas."

"In other words," Gardner said, "if parents get obnoxious, the hockey organization can ban them from the arena for a specified number of games."

However, he adds that the GTHL doesn't have a protocol as to what specific behaviour will result in a parent being kicked out of an arena.

"Referees have different thresholds for verbal abuse. So it depends on the individual referee as to whether or not they will throw out a parent," Pearce said.

If the parent doesn't adhere to the ban, the organization has a right to void the minor player's certificate. This means the player won't be able to play in any of their team's league games for the balance of the season.

Gardner said, in extreme cases, a child may even be banned from playing on any GTHL teams.

"This is unfortunate because some players have to carry the burden of their parents' problems on their shoulders," Gardner said.

He added the GTHL has been very fortunate that they've never had to go that far.

Another problem officials are recognizing in minor hockey is the unrealistic expectations parents place on their children.

"The biggest reason parents do this is because they believe that their child will make the National Hockey League and become an



Over the past couple of months there have been more than three publicized incidents of violence in minor hockey. Mike Pearce of the GTHL says that the incidents have been blown out of proportion and it isn't only the parents to blame, it's coaches too.

instant millionaire," Gardner said.

Parents are not only putting way too much pressure on their children, but are also verbally abusing officials when they believe their son/daughter isn't getting the proper calls or time on the ice and the game is becoming too rough and physical.

"Leave your kids alone. Go to the arena and support them and let it stop there. It's like milk - the cream will always rise to the top," he said. "If your kid isn't part of that cream then leave him or her alone and let them have fun."

Parents aren't the only ones the GTHL blames. The problem goes beyond mom and dad.

"It's a trickle down effect," Gardner said. "It's the whole system, including coaches, the NHL and junior hockey itself."

For example, Gardner said that junior coaches take 15-year-olds for the major-junior

team despite not being ready for that level of hockey. This causes a bantam coach to take a 14-year-old for his bantam team. This continues all the way down through the different levels of hockey.

Gardner said that he'd like to see the CHA take a leadership role and listen to what the presidents of the minor hockey leagues around Canada have to say.

"Minor hockey has the most number of players but has the least to say about this issue," Gardner said.

Gardner thinks that letting kids play with their own age groups at the proper level until they're 17 will help in solving the problem of hockey violence and the pressure by parents on their children.

"The players aren't commodities, they're human beings. It's about time hockey wakes up to that fact."



Humber's Arezoo Ghajar-Azodi (23) jumps for a ball against the host Mount Royal Cougars at the CCAAs, where Humber lost 76-58.

CCAA Women's Basketball Final Results

1. Montmorency Nomades (seeded 5th)
2. Mount Royal College Cougars (seeded 2nd)
3. Grant Royal MacEwen Griffins (seeded 6th)
4. Fraser Valley Cascades (seeded 1st)
5. Dawson Blues (seeded 3rd)
6. Langara Falcons (seeded 4th)
7. Nova Scotia Agriculture College Rams (seeded 8th)
8. Humber Hawks (seeded 7th)

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HSF Constitutional Changes

BIRT that Article 12.2(3) be changed to: “not have more than two (2) courses in which grades are not entered on the end of Semester academic grade report. Those individuals that do have un-entered grades will be re-evaluated no later than 2 months after the initial eligibility review.”

BIRT that Article 13.10 be changed to: Attendance. At every meeting of the Board of Directors of which due notice has been given to the Directors in accordance with this Constitution, the Attendance Sheet shall be signed by all Directors present and the absent and excused Directors shall be noted. Attendance at board meetings is considered being present until 9:30 p.m. or in the event the meeting does not last until 9:30 p.m. two-thirds (2/3) of the agenda items must be covered prior to the Director leaving.

BIRT that Article 15.4 be changed to: Voting Rights of President. Unless the President is a designated member of a committee he/she shall remain an ex-officio non-voting member of all committees and sub-committees of HSF, unless otherwise stated in this Constitution or the Policies and Procedures Manual.

BIRT Article 15.11 be changed to: Ex-officio Capacity of Vice Presidents. Unless any of the Vice Presidents is a designated member of a committee he/she shall remain an ex-officio non-voting member of all committees and sub-committees of HSF, unless otherwise stated in this Constitution or the Policies and Procedures Manual.

BIRT Article 26.1 be changed to: The Hiring Committee shall be composed of the President and Business Manager, one or more Vice Presidents, and, as appropriate, Human Resources personnel of the College.

BIRT Article 27.3 be changed to: The Alumni Committee shall meet during the month of June each school year, at a time and place determined by the Executive Committee. Notice of meetings shall be distributed to all members of the Alumni Committee.

BIRT Article 30 - Director's Task Force be added to the Constitution as follows:

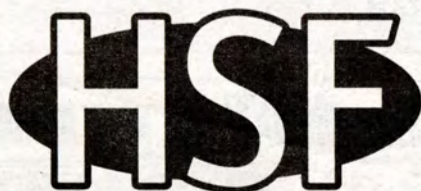
30.1 Composition The Directors taskforce committee shall be composed of no less than five (5) HSF directors, each of whom shall have one vote on the committee. HSF volunteers and staff can also be included in an ex-officio non-voting capacity.

30.2 Chair The directors taskforce committee shall elect a chairperson at its first meeting. The chairperson shall retain the right to vote.

30.3 Purpose The purpose of the directors taskforce committee is to bring news and updates to the membership.

30.4 Meetings The directors taskforce committee shall meet at least once a month, from September to March. Meetings shall be called by the chair and notice shall be given no less than 3 days

prior to the meeting (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, HSF Non-Business Days and the day of the meeting, but including the day on which the notice is given).



Humber Students' Federation

To review the constitution visit the HSF website at www.hsfweb.com.